SECRET

5/41-42/S.B.
Encls. (2)

CS 12-41-58 40/CB

. PEEL, Esq., C.I.E.,
Inspector-General of Police
in Mysore.

BANGALORE

Dated July 5, 1941
7

JUL 7 1941
248

I enclose for the information of Government a copy of a letter No. CC.20/40-41 dated July 4, 1941, received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, regarding the labour situation in Kolar Gold Fields.

Subd

Law minister)

7-7-41

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Mysore,
Bangalore.

.PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
pl. Superintendent of Police.

Cha
Dated 4th July 19

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

I beg to state that two coolies o
Champion Reef mine by name Dharmapuri and Gnan
who were not regularly attending to their work
seven door-boys who were old and unfit for wor
were removed from work from 1-7-1941 with the re
that one Perumal of ' I ' Block, Thangavelu,
Gnanamani and few others conspired together on th
night of 3-7-41 with a view to arrange for a stri
unless these persons are taken back for work. T
drafted a petition to that effect.

This morning a Tamil manuscript noti
was pasted to a conspicuous place near the Tea S
Champion Reefs and the morning shift coolies goi
work stopped entering the shaft after seeing the
manuscript notice and collected ~~near the Shaft.~~
The Superintendent of the mine came to the place at
7 a.m. and made enquiries. He then asked them to
send up a deputation when he would consider the
matter; but the coolies refused as they wanted him
to decide the matter in the presence of all the
coolies. Perumal referred to above however
presented the petition to the Superintendent. In
the meanwhile the Chief Inspector of Mines came to
he spot and enquired into the matter. The thrown-
~~out coolies~~ and the door-boys represented the
grievances to him when after consultation wit
Superintendent of the mines, he told them that the
two coolies would be taken back for work and the
door-boys would be sent for medical examination to
know whether they are fit for further work. The
coolies were satisfied and they went to work at
8-10 a.m. and the night shift coolies who were watchin

5

the situation went home satisfied.

Yours sincerely,

SD/- N. PUTTARANGASWAMY,

G. SUNDARA RAO, ESQ., B.A.,
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar.

Copies forwarded, with compliments, to the Superintendent of Police, Special Branch in Mysore, Bangalore.

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

SECRET

O. No. 5/41-42/S.B.
Encl. (1)

E. G. B. PEEL, Esq., C.I.E.,
Inspector-General of Police
in Mysore.

150/CB 7

BANGALORE

Dated July 10, 19

Subd
Law Minister

I enclose for the information of Government a copy of a report No. C.C. 20/40-41 dated July 9, 1941, received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, regarding a private meeting held by the members of the Kolar Gold Fields Labour Union, at Kuppam on 7-7-1941.

jasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Mysore,
Bangalore.

N. PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 9th July 1941.

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

I beg to state that it is reported that a private meeting was held at Kuppam on 7-7-1941 by the members of the K.G.F. Labour Union wherein they seem to have discussed that they have information from Mr. Mathan that the salaries of the coolies would be increased and finally resolved that in case the mining authorities did not give them the increased wages in 10 days they would enter K.G.F. and conduct Satyagraha. K.C. Phillip Esudoss, Thakkali, Chittrai, Muniswamy, Govindaswam Doraiswamy, Ebrahim and Lakshmana Mudaliar are stated to have taken part.

Yours sincerely,

SD/- N. PUTTARANGASWAMY

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,(Hon.)
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

Copies in duplicate forwarded, with compliments to the Superintendent of Police, Special Branch in Mysore, Bangalore.

9.7

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

154/CB

No.C.C.27/40-41. Office of the Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar Distt.
Encls. Five. Dated, Kolar the 11th day of J u l y 1941.

From

CHIEF SECRETARY.
12 JUL. 1941
GOVT. OF MYSORE.

S. Narayana Rao, Esq., M.A.(Hons.).,
Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesaviengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to Government, Bangalore.

Sir,

I have the honour to send enclosed copies of reports No.C.... 40-41, dated 9th and 10th July 1941, along with copies of enclosures, received from the Special Superintendent of Police, K.G.F., for information. A 'Phone message has been just received from the Chief Inspector of Mines, K.G.F. that the men who declined to receive wages yesterday and the day before, on the ground that the wages of certain workmen had been attached under Court Orders in suits filed before July 1938, received their wages to-day.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

S. Narayana Rao

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
KOLAR DISTT.

Submit for perusal.

(Minister.)

13/7

13/7

vkm.3.

13/7

D.O. letter No.C.C.20/40-41, dated 9th July 1941 from the Special Superintendent of Police, K.G.F., to the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

I beg to state that it is reported that a private meeting was held at Kuppam on 7-7-1941 by the members of the K.G.F. Labour Union wherein they seem to have discussed that they have information from Mr. Mathan that the salaries of the -- coolies would be increased and finally resolved that in case the mining authorities did not give them the increased wages in 10 days they would enter K.G.F. and conduct Satyagraha. K.C. Phillips, Esudoss, Thakkali, Chittarai, Muniswamy, Govindaswamy Doraiswamy, Ebrahim and Lakshmana Mudaliar are stated to have taken part.

"COPY"

Kolar.

11th July 1941.

S. Narayanaswamy

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, KOLAR DISTT.

D.O.Letter No.C.C.20/40-41, dated 10th July 1941, from the Special Superintendent of Police, K.G.F., to the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

In continuation of my previous reports, I beg to state that Tamil notices were found pasted to a wall of the -- Cresswell & Co., and to a gate near the Post Office which stated that it has been decided that there should be a strike as the pay of the coolies is deducted towards the debts, that their expectations would be published soon and that therefore instead of strike everybody should return without getting their pay which would make their task a success.

The notice is prepared by pasting Tamil printed letters on a Cinema Notice.

It is further reported that G. Narayanaswamy, Indraraj, Gangadharan & Dasna went to each line and told the coolies to return without taking their pay in case it is attached towards their debts. Their movements are watched. A copy of the translation of the printed notice is enclosed.

" COPY "

Kolar.
11th July 1941.

S. Narayanaswamy

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, KOLAR DISTRICT.

N O T I C E.

Most beleved Companions!

It is decided that there must be a strike as pay is deducted towards the debts. Our expectations will be published soon. Therefore instead of strike, everybody should return without getting the pay. This will make our task a success.

" "

Copy

Sd. N. Puttarangaswamy,
Special Superintendent of Police,
K. G. F.

"COPY"

Kolar.
11th July 1941.

Narayanaswamy

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, KOLAR DISTRICT.

9

D.O. letter No.C.C.20/40-41, dated 10th July 1941, from the Special Superintendent of Police, K.G.F. to the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District, Kolar.

~~Re~~ In continuation of my previous reports, I beg to state that it is reported that two female surface coolies by name -- Valliamma and Thangamma were taken underground to the 70th level by Mr. Osbern and a Maistry of Champion Reef yesterday. At about 12 noon, the labourers of Champion Reef Mine took objection for taking female coolies underground and about 1000 coolies gathered near the Champion Reef Pay Office to represent the matter to the mining Superintendent. The Superintendent replied that he would enquire into the matter when all the coolies dispersed.

This day morning when the pay for the coolies was disbursed, the Champion Reef coolies refused to take their pay stating that as the major portion of their pay is to be attached the balance disbursed would be insufficient for their maintenance. The Super intendent told them that it is the order of the Court and that the cannot interfere and that in fact they have also appealed before the High Court with a view to get the concession in this respect, but the coolies would not be satisfied and went home without takin their pay. In Mysore Mines inspite of instructions given by G. Narayanaswamy and others all the coolies took their pay in the morning except only two. In Nandydroog Mines the pay of some of the coolies were not deducted but full pay was disbursed with an advice to clear their debts with the marwaries before the end of the month. In Oorgaum Mines all the coolies took their pay -- in spite of attachments and in some cases at the request of the affected individuals full pay was also disbursed as they pleaded some domestic inconveniences to pay towards the loan.

Yesterday evening Tamil printed notices were distributed all over the mines. They appealed to the labourers to strengthen the Sangham by becoming members and paying the monthly subscriptions wit due apologies for not publishing their Weekly Bulletins for two weeks owing to unavoidable circumstances. A copy of the English Translation of the notice is enclosed.

~~In Champion Reef Mine in the afternoon also none of the coolies~~

~~received~~

20

~~enclosed~~.

In Champion Reef mine in the after-noon also none of the coolies received their pay. About one hundred coolies however gathered near the General Office at about 3-30 p.m. and demanded information about the punishment given to Mr. Osborne, the Maistry and others who took the two female coolies underground yesterday without permission. The Chief Agent told them that they had been fined one shift's pay and that the seven representatives whom the coolies had sent from underground yesterday were satisfied with the punishment. The coolies disowned that they had sent any ~~p~~ representatives and demanded that all those persons concerned including the two female coolies should be suspended for one week and that this decision should be announced on the Notice Board. They demanded that this decision should be announced before 3 p.m. to-morrow afternoon i.e., before the morning shift coolies come from underground.

This afternoon at about 3 p.m. about 40 coolies of Mysore Mine went and received their pay at about 3 p.m. and thereafter the remaining coolies refused to receive their pay on the pay attachment question and went away. At about 3-45 p.m. G. Narayanaswamy, the School Master with about 20 others was standing on the main road near the Mysore Mine Panchayeth Hall and was advising the coolies to be united and support the cause of the other coolies whose pay is to be attached. They were also advising the coolies not to spend money on toddy.

In Oorgaum and Nandydroog mines all the coolies received their pay in the afternoon also. The situation is being watched and further progress will be duly reported.

"Copy"

Kolar.
11th July 1941.

S. Narayana Rao

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
KOLAR DISTRICT.

11/7

KOLAR GOLD FIELDS LABOUR SANGHAM.
Brave Friends - Get United!

Our firm determination.

Companions! We are struggling hard to stabilise the formation of the Sangham. But you may ask as to why nothing has been done so far. If you can imagine the troubles under which we have to hoist our successful flag, you yourselves can answer that question. Every-one of us has the determination not to get back the leg which has been put forward until our task ends in complete success.

WEEKLY BULLETIN.

Many may think in different ways; because the weekly Bulletins which were being printed on behalf of the Sangham, have not been published for the past two weeks. The real truth about it is that because of unexpected happenings, it could not be published. There fore we request the labourers to get themselves consoled by looking at this notice without entertaining any idea in their minds.

OUR DUTY.

Our affairs are being attended to. Many are struggling for our sake at Bangalore Legislative Assembly Council. They are pleading before the Government that the Sangham should be given at any cost. When such capable personages have come forward to speak for our sake, what is our duty? Every labourer must become the member of the Sangham and strengthen the Sangham, pay the monthly subscriptions without fail. We have been struggling hard these days. Our successful days are not far off.

Our patience, perseverence and interest are essential. Is there ~~is~~ any doubt in our success? Success is ours.

Kuppam 7-7-41.
Sri Rama Press,
Kuppam.

Published under the auspices of the Sangham.

"Copy"
Sd. N. Puttarangaswamy,
Spl. Superintendent of Police, K.G.F.

"COPY"

Kolar.
11th July 1941.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, KOLAR DISTT.

SECRET

D. O. No. 5/41-42/S.B.
Encls. (2).

164 25
CB

BANGALORE

E. G. B. PEEL, Esq., C.I.E.,
Inspector-General of Police
in Mysore.

Dated July 13, 194

My dear Kesavaiengar,

I enclose for the information of Government a copy of a letter No.CC.20/40-41 dated July 12, 1941, received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, regardi the labour situation in Kolar Gold Fields.

Yours

Peel

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Mysore,
Bangalore.

PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 12th July 1941.

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my report of yesterday, I beg to state that it is reported that about 10 coolies of the Nandydroog mine approached the Superintendent of the mine for advances this day morning and the Superin-tendent seems to have promised that he would give them some advance.

At about 10 a.m. to-day the drivers of the Champion Reef mine approached the Chief Engineer, Champion Reef for increase of wages as the amount they get would not suffice. The Chief Engineer replied that he would consult the matter with the Superintndent of the mine and the result intimated on Monday the 14th instant or the next day. They then went home. Perumal of 'I' Block was also with them.

This morning the coolies of picking floor, Mysore mine presented a petition to Mr. Kendall requesting for grant of leave for half a day on Saturdays and Sundays as they over-work on other days. He replied that he would consult the matter with the Superintendent of the mine and intimate the result on Mondays. The coolies then went to work.

The labourers of the Stone-breaking Department of Mysore Mine did not go to work this morning their grievances being that they are forced to work overtime and not let off at their stipulated time. They were waiting outside when Mr. Kendall came and assured them that he would give due consideration

to their request. The coolies then went to work.

Yours sincerely,

SD/- N. PUTTARANGASWAMY,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,(Hon).,
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

NR/-

Copies in duplicate forwarded, with complim
to the Special Superintendent of Police, Special
Branch in Mysore, Bangalore.

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

170 29
CB.

No.C.C.27/40-41.
Encl. One.

Office of the Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.
Dated, Kolar the 14th day of July 1941.

From

S. Narayana Rao, Esq., M.A.(Hons.).,
Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

To

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesaviengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to Government of
H.H. the Maharaja of Mysore, Bangalore.

Sir,

In continuation of my report of even number dated 12th July 1941, I have the honour to send herewith a copy of -- D.O. letter No.C.C.20/40-41, dated 12th July 1941, received from the Special Superintendent of Police, K.G.F., for -- information.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

S. Narayana Rao

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
KOLAR DISTT.

Subd.
Law Minister
16.7.41
17/7

OFFICE OF THE
MINISTER FOR LAW
JUL 16 1941
No. 527

vkm.4.

D.O. Letter No.C.C.20/40-41, dated 12th July 1941, from the Special Superintendent of Police, K.G.F. to the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

In continuation of my report of yesterday, I beg to state that it is reported that about 10 coolies of the Nandydroog Mine approached the Superintendent of the mine for advances this day morning and the Superintendent seems to have promised that he would give them some advance.

At about 10 a.m. to-day the drivers of the Champion Reef Mine approached the Chief Engineer, Champion Reef for increase o wages as the amount they get would not suffice. The Chief Engineer replied that he would consult the matter with the Super intendent of the mine and the result intimated on Monday the 14th instant or the next day. They then went home. Perumal of 'I' Block was also with them.

This morning the coolies of picking floor, Mysore Mine presented a petition to Mr. Kendall requesting for grant of leave for half a day on Saturdays and Sundays as they over work on other days. He replied that he would consult the matter with the Superintendent of the mine and intimate the result on Monday. The coolies then went to work.

The labourers of the Stone-breaking Department of Mysore mine did not go to work this morning their grievances being that they are forced to work overtime and not let off at their stipulated time. They were waiting outside when Mr. Kendall came and assured them that they would give due consideration to their request. The coolies then went to work.

" Copy "

Kolar.
14th July 1941.

S. Narayanagowda
14.7.41

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, KOLAR DISTRICT.

33 222/C

D.O. No. 5/41-42/S.B.
Encls(2)

E. G. B. PEEL, Esq., C.I.E.,
Inspector-General of Police
in Mysore.

SECRET.

BANGALORE

July 21, 1941.

Subd
Law minister
21.7.41

OFFICE OF THE
MINISTER FOR LAW
JUL 22 1941
No 665

My dear Kesavaiengar

I enclose for the information of Government a copy of a letter No.CC.20/40-41 dated July 20,1941 received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, regarding the labour situation in Kolar Gold Fields.

Yours
E G B Peel

Rajasevaprasakta
B. T. Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to the Government of
H.H. the Maharaja of Mysore,
Bangalore.

N. PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 20th July 194

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports beg to state that it is reported that on account engine trouble at Gifford Shaft in the afternoon 18-7-1941, the underground coolies who had gone f work could not be hoisted up till 11 p.m. and tha they therefore demanded more wages for doing over work. They then approached the Superintendent o the mine who after consultation with the Chief Inspector of Mines and Captain Willys, Welfare Officer, advised the coolies to go to work statin that he would give them more wages for extra work done. They all went to work satisfied. The afternoon shift coolies were asked to come for worl in the night shift.

Dorairaj of Nandydroog mine has distribut hand-bills in the Nandydroog mine area stating that owing to his bodily and family troubles he is unabl to attend to any of the labour interests and to collect sybscriptions etc., and that he therefore has withdrawn from any such activities. Copy of the English Translation of the same is enclosed.

Yours sincerely,

SD/- N. PUTTARANGASWAMY,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,(Hon.),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar.

NR/-

Copies in duplicate, forwarded with compliment to the Superintendent of Police, Special Branch in Mysore, Bangalore.

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

19

NOTICE TO THE WORKMEN OF NANDYDROOG MINES.

***

MY DEAR FRIENDS,

From the date of strike from 16-7-1940 I was able to meet several Officers of Superior service in Government ~~and~~ in order to achieve some of our aims and that with your support. I submit my respects to you all for having had such opportunities under your blessings. I have also met many officers who work in the public interest. I have also requested Mr. V.V. Giri and Mr. P.R.K. Sharma who are the leaders of our Union to evince their interest in our troubles.

But hereafter, owing to my bodily and family troubles I am unable to attend to any of the above works or subscriptions and I have withdrawn myself from any of the above activities.

18/7/41 M. DORARAJ,

Vel Press, Bangalore. Nandydroog Mines.

" COPY "

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

NR/-

39 237/CB

No.C.C.29/40-41.

Office of the Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

Encls. Two. Dated, Camp:Oorgaum the 22nd day of July 1941.

From

S. Narayana Rao, Esq., M.A.(Hons.).,

Deputy Commissioner,

Kolar District.

To

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesaviengar, Esq., B.A.,

Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore, Bangalore.

Sir,

In continuation of my letter of even number dated 14th July 1941, I have the honour to forward herewith a copy of D.O. letter No.C.C.20/40-41, dated 20th July 1941,(together with a copy of its enclosure,)received from the Special Superintendent of Police Kolar Gold Fields, for information.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

Subd
23.7.41

S. Narayana Rao

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
KOLAR DISTRICT.

OFFICE OF THE
MINISTER FOR LAW
JUL 23 1941

21

vkm.4.

D.O. letter No.C.C.20/40-41, dated 20th July 1941, from the Special Superintendent of Police, K.G.F. to the Deputy Commissione Kolar District.

In continuation of my previous reports, I beg to state that it is reported that on account of engine trouble at Gifford Shaft in the afternoon of 18-7-1941, the underground coolies who had gone for work could not be hoisted up till 11 p.m. and that they therefore demanded more wages for doing over-work. They then approached the Superintendent of the Mine who after consultation with the Chief Inspector of Mines and Captain Willys, Welfare Officer, advised the coolies to go to work stating that he would give them more wages for extra work done. They all went to work satisfied. The afternoon shift coolies were asked to come for work in the night shift.

Dorairaj of Nandydroog Mine has distributed hand-bills in the Nandydroog mine area stating that owing to his bodily and family troubles he is unable to attend to any of the labour interests and to collect subscriptions etc., and that he therefore has withdrawn from any such activities. Copy of the English Translation of the same is enclosed.

NOTICE TO THE WORKMEN OF NANDYDROOG MINES.

My Dear Friends,

From the date of strike from 16-7-40 I was able to meet several officers of superior service in Government in order to achieve some of our aims and that with your support. I submit my respects to you all for having had such opportunities under your blessings. I have also met many officers who work in the public interest. I have also requested Mr. V.V. Giri and Mr. P.R.K. Sharma who are the leaders of our Union to evince their interest in our troubles.

But hereafter, owing to my bodily and family troubles, I am unable to attend to any of the above works or subscriptions and I have withdrawn myself from any of the above activities.

activities.

18/7/1941. M. DORARAJ,

Nandydroog Mines.

Vel Press, Bangalore.

"Copy"

Sd. N. Puttarangaswamy,
Special Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

"Copies"

Camp: Oorgaum.
22nd July 1941.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
KOLAR DISTRICT.

vkm.2.

26
CB

No. C.C. 27/40-41
Encl: ~~Five~~ Two Typed copies.

Office of the Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District,
Dated, Kolar, the 24th July 1941.

From

S.Narayana Rao, Esqr., M.A., (Hons).,
Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District,
Kolar.

CHIEF SECRETARY, 26 JUL. 1941 GOVT. OF MYSORE

To

Rajasevaprasakta,
B.T.Kesavaiengar, Esqr., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, Bangalore.

Sir,

In continuation of this office letter of even number dated 22nd July 1941, I have the honour to - forward herein enclosed a copy of D.O.No.C.C.20/40-41 dated 22nd July 1941 received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, together with a copy of its enclosure, for information.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

S. Narayanarao

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
KOLAR DISTRICT. 25/7

Submit for perusal
26/7/41

Have act copies recd from the I.G.P. been sent to Law ministers?

28/7

CHIEF SECRETARY, 26 JUL. 1941 GOVT. OF MYSORE.

D.C.Letter No. C.C. 20/40-41 dated 22nd July 1941 from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, to the ~~District Magistrate~~ Deputy Commr., Kolar District, K o l a r.

In continuation of my previous reports, I beg to state that a meeting of the K.G.F. Labourers was held at the Football Grounds, Marikuppam on the evening of 21st July 1941 and about 1500 labourers attended. It commenced at 6 p.m. when Ebinezer, Carpenter cooly, Cymade Line gave three cheers to Sri V.V.Giri, Sri Sharma, the benign Mysore Government Samasthanam authorities, K.G.F. Sangham and the labourers. He then introduced Sri Govindaraj of Oorgaum as the sole representative of the K.G.F. labourers in the Mysore Legislative Assembly and said that he would explain what had happened in the Assembly on the 16th, 17th and 18th instants at Bangalore.

Gonindaraj then got up and said that he was speaking there not as the sole representative of the K.G.F. labourers but as the messenger sent by the Sangham. He also said that he pressed for the formation of 4 unions in K.G.F. instead of one the members for which being elected by the labourers themselves, the appointment of a labour Commissioner for K.G.F. and the establishment of an Industrial Court for settling disputes between the labourers and the capitalists, etc.

Then Narayanaswamy got up and passed resolutions regarding the steps taken for the establishment of the unions immediately, restoration of jobs to the mine-out labourers and the publication of Sri Mathan's recommendations. He also said that he would send the resolutions to Government the same day.

Ebinezer then got up and spoke about the struggle and the sacrifice they made for the establishment of the sangham and appealed for liberal subscription and co-

operation

46

co-operation for the successful working of the Sangham.

Perumal of Champion Reef and two others also spoke and thanked the Mysore Samasthanam and Sri A.V.Ramanathan and Sri P.R.K.Sharma for their sincere efforts made to better their conditions.

Finally Govindaraj announced that there would be another meeting on the 20th instant and the meeting terminated at 7 p.m.

A copy of the English versions of the proceedings of the meeting is enclosed.

T.Ramachandran and two others arrived at Oorgaum by 12-30 p.m. train yesterday and after visiting Balaghat, Nandydroog and Oorgaum mines left the place at 5-30 p.m.

****

" C O P Y "

S. Narayanaswamy

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
KOLAR DISTRICT.

257/41

Kolar,
Dated, the 24th July 1941.

Proceedings of the meeting held at Football Ground, Marikuppam on 21st July 1941 at 6 p.m.

Gathering - 1500 labourers.
Six spoke and all speeches were in Tamil.

The meeting commenced at 6 p.m.

****

First Ebinezer, Carpenter cooly, Cynade Line, Marikuppam gave three cheers to Sri V.V.Giri, Sri Sharma, the benign Mysore Government Samasthanam authorities, Kolar - Gold Fields Sangham and Kolar Gold Fields labourers for which there was unanimous response from the crowd. He introduced Sri Govindaraj of Oorgaum as the sole representative of the Kolar Gold Fields labourers in the Mysore - Legislative Assembly and said that he would explain to the labourers what had happened in the Assembly on 16th, 17th and 18th July at Bangalore.

Govindaraj got up and said that he was speaking there not as the sole representative of the Kolar Gold Fields - labourer but as the messenger sent by the Sangham. He said that the following things have been passed in the - Assembly.

1. In view of the difficulty that will have to be faced in controlling one union for all the 27,000 labourers - in the Kolar Gold Fields, area it has been decided that each mine should have one union.

2 The labourers themselves are empowered to form an union by voting system.

3. Every year members for this union may be re- - elected by the labourers.

4. The Union is empowered to frame its own rules and regulations for the smooth running of the mines.

5. In every Union two outsiders may be permitted to work along with the Office-bearers.

6. Four labour commissioners have been appointed by the Mysore Samasthan, one each for Kolar, Bangalore, Mysore

4-6

Mysore and Shimoga. In case of any difference of opinion with the capitalists, they may apply to their respective labour Commissioner who will try his best to mediate between the two parties.

7. In case of any necessity for strike, the Union may call for the opinion of the labourers and in case of majority the labourers may strike.

8. In case anybody voluntarily goes about spreading news for strike he will be imprisoned for 15 days or fined Rs. 25/-. In case the capitalists threaten to close the mines if the labourers strike, the capitalists will be fined Rs. 2500/-

9. If the labour commissioner fails to settle the dispute between the labourers and capitalists amicably the Government will establish an 'INDUSTRIAL COURT' to decide this issue. In case this too fails, the issues will be referred to the High Court for decision. If the labourers are dis-satified with this, they may give 15 days notice for strike. But High Court may be asked to give its decision within two months. But nothing prevents the labourers to settle themselves with the capitalists any issues that may arise from time to time.

10. On no account any other union will be recognised nor permitted in case of any difference of opinion with this Union.

Then Narayanaswamy got up and passed the following resolutions on behalf of the labourers that had assembled to-day.

1. Steps must be taken to establish the Union at K.G.F. immediately.

2. Mine-put labourers must be restored to their original jobs after permitting them to enter K.G.F. area.

3. The recommendations of Sri Nathan to the Government must be published at the earliest possible time.

Narayanaswamy -

Narayanaswamy said that he would besending these resolutions to the Government to-day itself.

Ebenezer got up and said ' Most Brave -hearted companions! We have struggled hard and we have achived many things as a result ofsacrifice. We have showed to others how mighty we are; how vain others were when we were asking for an Union. I am happy to inform you that last years from this date struggle for the establishment of an Union began and to-day that has been achived; the Union has been recognised and established. We should be proud of our achievements. But still you must be careful; you must not go about and make fun of those who - were laughing at us when we were struggling hard. I am sure they would have come to realise our strength. - Your contributions to the Sangham through subscriptions and co-operation must be more than what you had already done. I know that some of you are not at all paying subscriptions to the sangham. You must realise that for the successful working of the same they are quite essential. You must see that a stable and weel organised Sangham is formed. We have nothing to fear in this - Universe under the most benign Mysore Samasthan and our days are being bettered through the untiring endeavours of Sri V.V.Giri and Sri Sharma and the most kind-hearted personage Sri A.V.Ramanathan. We expected milk but - plaintains also were supplied along with milk.

(In the meanwhile, labourers from Champion Reef were joining the crowd).

Perumal, ascertained to be from Champion Reef 'I' Block spoke a few words, first reminding the crowd of the hardships that are being faced by the mine-out labourers at Kuppam. He thanked the Mysore Samasthan and its - authorities for their sincere efforts to better the conditions of the labourers. He appealed to the gathering to pay subscriptions regularly and thereby strengthen the -

stability -

stability of the Sangham. He was finding it difficult to express in suitable words their sense of gratitude to Sri P.R.K. Sharma and Sri A.V. Ramanathan.

Two others whose names could not be ascertained spoke in the end. They thanked the Mysore Samasthan and showed their willingness to co-operate with the Sangham.

Govindaraj of Oorgaum announced that there would be a meeting again in the open ground near Robertsonpet Travellers' Bungalow on Wednesday the 23rd July and closed the Proceedings of the meeting in view of the darkness having set in.

There was no breach of the peace. Everything went on smoothly. The meeting closed at 7 p.m.

****

"COPY"

Sd/- N.PUTTARANGASWAMY.
Special Superintendent of Police, K.G.F.

****

" C O P Y "

Kolar,
24-7-1941.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
KOLAR DISTRICT.

25/7/41

No.C.C.27/40-41.

Encls. Two.

Office of the Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

Dated, Kolar the 25th day of July 1941.

From

S. Narayana Rao, Esq., M.A.(Hons.).,
Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

To

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesaviengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore, Bangalore.

CHIEF SECRETARY.
26 JUL 1941
GOVT. OF MYSORE.

Sir,

In continuation of my letter No.C.C.27/40-41, dated 24th July 1941, I have the honour to forward herewith a copy of D.O.No.C.C.20/40-41, dated 24th July 1941, together with a copy of its enclosure, received from the Special Superintenden of Police, K.G.F., for information.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

S. Narayanarao

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
KOLAR DISTRICT.

vkm.2.2.

31

D.O. letter No.C.C.20/40-41, dated 24th July 1941, from the Special Superintendent of Police, K.G.F., to the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Distt.

In continuation of my report, I beg to state that as previously arranged the meeting of the K.G.F. Labourers before the Travellers' Bungalow was held on the evening of 23-7-1941 with a gathering of about 2000 labourers. One Kanniappa of Mysore mine presided. It commenced at 5-30 p.m. with the introduction of Govindarajulu to the audience by the Chairman. Govindarajalu then began his speech and said that he went to Bangalore as a Messenger of the labourer the mine-out labourers too having followed him there, that he took instructions from their leader Sri P.R. K. Sharma and also from Mr. T. Ramachandra as to what to talk and how to represent things in the meeting and that the next day he went to the meeting and discussed matters relating to the formation of the Union in K.G.F. He narrated the same facts as he did on the 21st. He also stated about (1) Formation of one Head Office for all the four Union Offices under the control of the Labour Commissioner, (2) matters not settled by the labour commissioner to be enquired into by a committee (3) members of the Union are liable to be removed by the votes of majority labourers in case of inefficiency, bribery etc. (4) mining authorities to send to the Union a statement of salaries and facilities afforded to the -- labourers, (5) If the strike resorted is continued for a period of 2 months, the Government of His Highness the Maharaja should interfere and bring about a settlement. These were read out by G. Narayanaswami while Govindarajalu explained in detail to the audience.

Gopal Nair of Nandyaroop, Rayappan, Perumal and Ebenezer also spoke about the struggle the leaders had made in getting the Union and appealed to the audience to pay subscriptions to strengthen the Union and not be misled by any antogonistic persons.

Govindaraju in the end got up and announced that the

54

the mining authorities have sent up an appeal to the District Magistrate, Kolar regarding the attachment warrants, that the matter is pending in the High Court and that if the results are not favourable the question would be taken up by the Union. ~~In the end, Narayanaswamy read two resolutions regarding the formation of the Union.~~ In the end Narayanaswamy read two resolutions regarding the formation of the Union and the restoration of jobs to the mine-out labourers and said that he would send them to the Minister for Law. The meeting closed at 7-15 p.m.

Copy of the English Translation is enclosed.

"Copy"

Kolar.
25th July 1941.

S. Nadgauda
25/7

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, KOLAR DT.

Proceedings of the meeting of K.G.F. labourers held at the Football Maidan near the Robertsonpet Travellers' Bungalow on 23-7-1941 at 5-40 p.m.

One Kanniappan of Mysore Mine presided over the meeting. (2) Govindarajalu, Bellman, Corgaum Tamil Line, (3) Gopal Nair of Nandydroog Mine (4) Rayappa, Teacher, St. Mary's School, Champion Reef (5) One Maistry (name not known) of Mysore Mine (6) Perumal, 'I' Block, Champion Reef (7) Ebenezer and (8) Narayanaswamy of Mysore Mine spoke.

Kanniappan got up and introduced Govindarajalu to the gathering and announced that Govindarajalu, who has been -- selected as the Representative of K.G.F. Labourers in the -- Legislative Assembly, would speak about the matters discussed in the Legislative Assembly at Bangalore.

Govindarajanlu began his speech as follows:-

"My dear friends! I was introduced by Mr. Kanniappan as the sole representative of the entire K.G.F. labourers in the legislative Assembly. But I confess before you that I am not fit to be the sole representative of the entire K.G.F. labourers. I had been to Bangalore only as a messenger of the labourers and the Union. When I started to Bangalore I met our mine-out brothern at Bowringpet who accompanied me to Bangalore. We all got down at Bangalore East, met our leader P.R.K. Sharma and talked with him for 4 hours. He was kind enough to instruct me in all the matters to be discussed in the assembly as to what to talk and how to talk. Thereafter, I went to the City and met Brahmachari T. Ramachandran and took his advice as to what to talk and how to represent things before the assembly.

The next day we went to the Assembly. The assembly began at 9 a.m. and first sessions was over by 1 p.m. Rajasevaprasaka A.V. Ramanathan was the Chairman of the Assembly. The following matters were discussed with the members and the Chairman Sri A.V. Ramanathan:

1. One Union should be given to each mine i.e., 4 unions altogether for all the four mines. It was discussed that one

56

Union for all the four mines consisting of 27,000 labourers would be insufficient.

2. Members for the Union should be selected from each department, such as, Underground, Blacksmith shop, Carpenter shop etc., who can speak and work for the Union boldly.

3. Each Union must be allowed to have two outsiders who know law, e.g., P.R.K. Sharma. Thus all the four Unions would get 8 outsiders who can work and assist the Union members.

4. Labourers should be allowed to frame the rules and regulations themselves for the successful working of Unions.

5. All the grievances of the labourers should be represented through the Union and on no account should there be another Union other than the one already establishe

6. In each mine, one Union office will be established.

7. And there will be one Head Office for all the four Union Offices and it will be under the control of one labour commissioner.

The labour Commissioner should be approached by the Union members in all matters regarding the grievances of the labourers. He will enquire into the matters and thus effect a settlement.

8. If the matters are not settled by the labour Commissioner, the enquiry will be taken up by a Committee.

9. Even if the Committee fails to decide the matters, the same will be referred to the High Court Judge appointed specially for this purpose by the Government.

10. If that High Court Judge's decisions are not satisfactory, the Union members would give a 14 days' notice and whereupon they should decide to strike within the period of 2 months (from the 15th day of the above-said notice).

11. Whether to strike or not will be decided by taking the opinion of the majority of the labourers.

labourers.

12. (1) Any person who instigates the labourers by coercive methods to strike will be punished by giving a sentence of either 15 days' R.I. or a fine of Rs.25/-.

(2) And if any head of the mining department causes or permits a lock-out without reasonable grounds he will be punished by sentencing him to pay a fine of Rs.2,500/- and in addition he will be insisted to pay off the wages to all the coolies for all the days of lock-out.

Govindarajulu closed his speech with his expression of great gratitude and reverence to the benevolent Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, Rajasevaprasakta A.V. Ramanathan, Sri P.R.K. Sharma and the K.G.F. labourers.

(While Govindarajulu was speaking, G. Narayanaswamy of Marikuppam read out the above said points in Tamil).

Next one Gopal Nair of Nandydroog mine spoke. He said that in all Industrial Centres such as, Bombay, America and Europe the labour Unions are given and they work for the betterment of the labourers and the industries as a whole. He requested the labourers to be united and have good faith in the labour Union. His speech was not appreciated by the gathering since he was not loud.

Thirdly one Rayappan got up and pleaded his incapacity to face such a big gathering and compared himself with Uttar, son of the King Viratta as narrated in the Mahabharatha. He continued with this story and told that it is the great -- achievement on the part of the K.G.F. Labourers to have had the labour Union without blood-shed. He said that his father was one of those who died in the undergrounds without getting the benefits of a labour Union. He further said 'My Dear Friends and beloved brothern, I request you to beware of many antogonists who try to mislead you and say many evil things against the labour Union and/as such I once again request you to turn a deaf ear to such people and keep your mouth shut and be united under the banner of the labour Union.

36

Union.

Next, one Maistry of Mysore Mine (name not known) got up and sang a song which depicted the hardships of the K.G.F. labourers both in the Undergrounds and on the surface. The song referred to the great efforts of Sri V.V. Giri, P.R.K. Sharma and the labourers.

He finished his speech with a request to the gathering to subscribe liberally to the Union, i.e., two annas per head. He also commented upon a Maistry who had taken the receipt 6 months back and not paid annas two uptil now. He said that he was ready to give the account for the money he had collected so far, if anybody were to check the accounts.

Perumal of 'I' Block, Champion Reef spoke next. The gathering did not pay much attention to him as his speech was not effective. But with all that he continued and requested the labourers to be united. He ended his speech with Jaykaras to the benevolent Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, Rajasevaprasaktha A.V. Ramanathan, Rajamanthrapravina K.Mathan, Sri V.V. Giri, P.R.K. Sharma, the K.G.F. Labour Union, Phillips, Lakshmana Mudaliar, G. Narayanaswamy and the Undesirables at Kuppam.

Ebenezer of Cyanide line, Marikuppam used to get up in the middle while the other speakers were speaking and addressed the gathering to support the cause of the Union, have good faith in the leaders and to be grateful to the benevolent Government of His Highness the Manaraja of Mysore, A.V.Ramanathan, and V.V. Giri and P.R.K.Sharma. He further requested the gathering to give subscriptions to the Union and keep their mouths shut and further warned them not to listen to those who speak ill of the labour Union.

Lastly Govindarajalu got up ~~xxxxxxx~~ again and announced that the mining authorities have sent up an appeal to the District Magistrate, Kolar against the attachments of the pays of the labourers and the result is awaited, from the High Court. If favourable result is not forthcoming the question would be taken up by the Unions and the concerned Marwaries will be requested to

tell the actual amount paid and realised and then request them to take reasonable amounts through the Union from the concerned debtors.

In the end G. Narayanaswamy of Mysore Mine got up and read out the following resolutions:-

I. The Government is requested to take immediate provisional measures to establish the Labour Unions on the fields at an early date.

2. The mine-out labourers should be restored to their jobs.

~~3.~~ The resolutions were unanimously approved by the gathering.

Narayanaswamy said that he would send up these resolutions to Rajasevaprasakta A.V. Ramanathan to-morrow. He ended the meeting with an announcement to the effect that Sri P.R.K.Sharma would preside over the next meeting on the Fields . The -- gathering was requested to watch for the date. The meeting ended at about 7-15 p.m.

All the labourers dispersed quietly.

"Copy"

Sd. N. Puttarangaswamy,
Special Superintendent of Police,K.G.F.

"Copy"

Kolar.
25th July 1941.

S. Narayanaswamy

25.7.41.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, KOLAR DISTRICT

vkm.2.

38

N. PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 22nd July 1941.

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports, I beg to state that a meeting of the K.G.F. labourers was held at the Football Grounds, Marikuppam on the evening of 21-7-1941 and about 1500 labourers attended It commenced at 6 p.m. when Ebinezer - Carpenter cooly, Cynade Line gave three cheers to Sri V.V. Giri, Sri Sharma, the benign Mysore Government Samasthanam authorities, K.G.F. Sangham and the labourers. He then introduced Sri Govindaraj of Oorgaum as the sole representative of the K.G.F. labourers in the Mysore Legislative Assembly and said that he would explain what had happened in the Assembly on the 16th, 17th and 18th instants at Bangalore.

Govindaraj then got up and said that he was speaking there not as the sole representative of the K.G.F. labourers but as the messenger sent by the Sangham. He also said that he pressed for the formation of 4 unions in K.G.F. instead of one the members for which being elected by the labourers themselves, the appointment of a labour commissioner for K.G.F. and the establishment of an Industrial Court for settling disputes between the labourers and the capitalists etc.

Then Narayanaswamy got up and passed resolutions regarding the steps taken for the establishment of the unions immediately, restoration of jobs to the mine-out labourers and the publication of Sri Mathan's recommendations. He also said that he would send the resolutions to Government the same day.

Ebenezer then got up and spoke about the struggle and the sacrifice they made for the establisl ment of the Sangham and appealed for liberal subscript and co-operation for the successful working Sangham.

Perumal of Champion Reef and two others also spoke and thanked the Mysore Samasthanam and Sri @. A.V. Ramanathan and Sri P.R.K. Sharma for their sincere efforts made to better their conditio

Finally Govindaraj announced that there would be another meeting on the 20th instant and the meeting terminated at 7 p.m.

A copy of the English version of the proceedings of the meeting is enclosed.

T. Ramachandran and two others arrived at Oorgaum by 12 p.m. train yesterday and after visiting Balaghat, Nandydroog and Oorgaum mines left the place at 5-30 p.m.

Yours sincerely,

SD/- N. PUTTARANGASWAMY,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A., (Hon),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

Copies in duplicate forwarded, with compliments, to the Special Superintendent of Police, Special Branch in Mysore, Bangalore.

Puttaranga
- 27/7

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

No 224

Proceedings of the meeting held at Football Ground, Marikuppam on 21st July 1941 at 6 p.m.

***

Gathering - 1500 labourers.
Six spoke and all speeches were in Tamil.

The meeting commenced at 6 p.m.

***

First Ebenezer, Carpenter cooly, Cynade line, Marikuppam gave three cheers to Sri V.V. Giri, Sri Sharma, the benign Mysore Government Samasthanam authorities, Kolar Gold Fields Sangham and Kolar Gold Fields labourers for which there was unanimous response from the crowd. He introduced Sri Govindaraj of Oorgaum as the sole representative of the Kolar Gold Fields labourers in the Mysore Legislative Assembly and said that he would explain to the labourers what had happened in the Assembly on 16, 17th and 18th July at Bangalore.

Govindaraj got up and said that he was speaking there not as the sole representative of the K.G.F. labourers but as the messenger sent by the Sangham. He said that the following things have been passed in the Assembly.

1. In view of the difficulty that will have to be faced in controlling one union for all the 27,000 labourers in the K.G.F. area it has been decided that each mine shoold have one union.

2. The labourers themselves are empowered to form an Union by voting system.

3. Every year members for this Union may be re-elected by the labourers.

4. The Union is empowered to frame its own rules and regulations for the smooth running of the mines.

5. In every Union two outsiders may be permitted to work along with the Office-bearers.

6. Four labour commissioners have been appointed by the Mysore Samasthan - one each for Kolar, Bangalore, Mysore and Shimoga. In case of any difference of opinion with the capitalists, they may apply to their respective

Commissioner who will try his best to mediate between the two parties.

7. In case of any necessity for strike, the Union may call for the opinion of the labourers and in case of majority, the labourers may strike.

8. In case anybody voluntarily goes about spreading news for strike he will be imprisoned for 15 days or fined Rs.25/-. In case the capitalists threaten to close the mines if the labourers strike, the capitalists will be fined Rs.2500/-.

9. If the labour commissioner fails to settle the disputes between the labourers and capitalists amicably the Government will establish an ' INDUSTRIAL COURT to decide this issue.. In case this too fails, the issues will be referred to the High Court for decision. If the labourers are dis-satisfied with this, they may give 15 days notice for strike. But High Court may be asked to give its decision within two months. But nothing prevents the labourers to settle themselves with the capitalists any issues that may arise from time to time.

10. On no account any other union will be recognised nor permitted in case of any difference of opinion with this Union.

Then Narayanaswamy got up and passed the following resolutions on behalf of the labourers that had assembled to-day.

1. Steps must be taken to establish the Union at KGF immediately.

2. Mine-out labourers must be restored to their original jobs after permitting them to enter K.G.F. area.

3. The recommendations of Sri Mathan to the Government must be published at the earliest possible time.

Narayanaswamy said that he would be sending these resolutions to the Government to-day itself.

Ebenezer got up and said ' Most Brave-hearted Companions! We have struggled hard and we have achieved many things as a result of sacrifice. We have showed to others how mighty we are; how vain others were when we were asking for an Union. I am happy to inform you that last year from this date struggle for the establishment of an Union began and to-day that has been achieved; the Union has been recognised and established. We should be proud of our achievements. But still you must be careful; you must not go about and make fun of those who were laughing at us when we were struggling hard. I am sure they would have come to realise our strength. Your contributions to the Sangham through subscritpions and cooperation must be more than what you had already done. I know that some of you are not at all paying subscriptions to the Sangham. You must realise that for the successful working of the same they are quite essential. You must see that a stable and well organi Sangham is formed. We have not ing to fear in this Universe under the most benign Mysore Samasthan and our days are being bettered through the untiring endeavours of Sri V.V. Giri and Sri Sharma and the most kind-hearted personage Sri A.V. Ramanathan. We expected milk but plaintains also were supplied along with milk.

(In the meanwhile, labourers from Champion Reef were joining the crowd.)

Perumal, ascertained to be from Champion Reef 'I' Block spoke a few words, first reminding the crowd of the hardships that are being faced by the mine-out labourers at Kuppam. He thanked the Mysore Samasthan and its authorities for their sincere efforts to better the conditions of the labourers. He appealed to the gathering to pay subscriptions regularly and thereby strengthen the stability of the Sangham. He was finding it difficult to express in suitable words their sense of gratitude to Sri P.R.K. Sharma and Sri A.V.

A.V. I

Two others whose names could not be ascertained spoke in the end. They thanked the Mysore Samasthan and showed their willingness to cooperate with the Sangham.

Govindaraj of Oorgaum announced that there would be a meeting again in the open ground near Robertsonpet Travellers' Bungalow on Wednesday the 23rd July and closed the proceedings of the meeting in view of the darkness having set in.

There was no breach of the peace. Everything went on smoothly. The meeting closed at 7 p.m.

****

" COPY "

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

NR/-

D. O. No. 5/41-42/SB.
Encls(7).

SECRET.

272 75
CB.

E. G. B. PEEL, Esq., C.I.E.,
Inspector-General of Police
in Mysore.

BANGALORE

July 25, 26, 1941.

OFFICE OF THE
MINISTER FOR LAW
JUL 28 1941
No. 884

My dear Kesavaiengar,

I enclose for the information of Government a copy of a letter No.CC.20/40-4 dated July 24, 1941, received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, regarding the proceedings of a public meeting of the K.G.F. labourers held at Robertsonpet on 23-7-1941.

Subd
Law Minister) 26/7

Yours
E. G. B. Peel

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T.Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to the Govt. of
H.H.the Maharaja of Mysore,Bangalore.

T. PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
pl. Superintendent of Police.

CC.20/40-41.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 24th July 1941.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my report, I beg to state that as previously arranged the meeting of the K.G.F. labourers before the Travellers' Bungalow was held on the evening of 23-7-41 with a gathering of about 2000 labourers. One Kanniappa of Mysore mine presided. It commenced at 5.30 p.m. with the introduction of Govindarajalu to the audience by the Chairman. Govindarajalu then began his speech and said that he went to Bangalore as a Messenger of the labourers, the mine-out labourers too having followed him there, that he took instructions from their leader Sri P.W.K. Sharma and also from Mr. T. Ramachandra as to what to talk and how to represent things in the meeting and that the next day he went to the meeting and discussed matters relating to the formation of the Union in K.G.F. He narrated the same facts as he did on the 21st. He also stated about (1) Formation of one Head Office for all the four Union Offices under the control of the Labour Commissioner, (2) matters not settled by the labour commissioner to be enquired into by a committee (3) members of the Union are liable to be removed by the votes of majority labourers in case of inefficiency, bribery etc., (4) mining authorities to send to the Union a statement of salaries and facilities afforded to the labourers, (5) If the strike resorted is continued for a period of 2 months, the Government of His Highness the Maharaja should interfere and bring about a settlement. These were read out by G. Narayanaswami while Govindarajalu explained in detail to the audience.

Gopal Nair of Nandydroog, Rayappan, Perumal and Ebenezer also spoke about the struggle the leaders had made in getting the Union and appealed to the audience to pay subscriptions to strengthen the Union and not be misled by any antogonistic persons.

Govindaraju in the end got up and announced that the mining authorities have sent up an appeal to the District Magistrate, Kolar regarding the attachment warrants, that the matter is pending in the High Court and that if the results are not favourable the question would be taken up by the Union. In the end Narayanaswamy read two resolutions regarding the formation of the Union and the restoration of jobs to the mine-out labourers and said that he would send them to the Minister for Law. The meeting closed at 7-15 p.m.

Copy of the English Translation is enclosed.

Yours sincerely,

SD/- N. PUTTARANGASWAMY,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,(Hon)., Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

Copy in duplicate forwarded, with compliments, to the Superintendent of Police, Special Branch in Mysore, Bangalore.

Spl. Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields.

24/7

Proceedings of the meeting of K.G.F. labourers held at the Football Maidan near the Robertsonpet Travellers' Bungalow on 23-7-41 at 5-40 p.m.

***

One Kanniappan of Mysore Mine presided over the meeting. (2) Govindarajalu, Bellman, Oorgaum Tamil line, (3) Gopal Nair of Nandydroog mine (4) Rayappan, Teacher, St. Mary's School, Champion Reef (5) one Maistry (name not known) of Mysore mine (6) Perumal, 'I' Block, Champion Reef (7) Ebenezer and (8) Narayanaswamy of Mysore mine spoke.

Kanniappan got up and introduced Govindarajalu to the gathering and announced that Govindarajalu, who has been selected as the Representative of K.G.F. labourers in the Legislative Assembly, would speak about the matters discussed in the Legislative Assembly at Bangalore.

Govindarajalu began his speech as follows :

" My dear friends! I was introduced by Mr. Kanniappa as the sole representative of the entire K.G.F. labourers in the Legislative Assembly. But I confess before you that I am not fit to be the sole representative of the entire K.G.F. labourers. I had been to Bangalore only as a Messenger of the labourers and the Union. When I started to Bangalore I met our mine-out brothers at Bowringpet who accompanied me to Bangalore. We all got down at Bangalore East, met our leader P.R.K. Sharma and talked with him for 4 hours. He was kind enought to instruct me in all the matters to be discussed in the assembly as to what to talk and how to talk. Thereafter I went to the City and met Brahmachari T. Ramachandran and took his advice as to what to talk and how to represent things before the assembly.

The next day we went to the Assembly. The Assembly began at 9 a.m. and first sessions was over by 1 p.m. Rajasevaprasaktha A.V. Ramanathan was the Chairman of the Assembly. The following matters were discussed with the members and the Chairman Sri A.V. Ramanathan :

1. One Union should be given to each mine i.e. 4 Unions altogether for all the four mines. It was discussed that one Union for all the four mines consisting of 27,000 labourers would be insufficient.

2. Members for the Union should be selected from each department, such as, Underground, Blacksmith shop, Carpenter shop etc., who can speak and work for the Union boldy.

3. Each Union must be allowed to have two outsiders, who know law, ~~i.e.~~ e.g. P.R.K. Sharma. Thus all the four Unions would get 8 outsiders who can work and assist the Union members.

4. Labourers should be allowed to frame the rules and regulations themselves for the successful working of Unions.

5. All the grievances of the labourers should be represented through the Union and on no account should there be another Union other than the one already established. The Union should be a registered one.

6. In each mine one Union Office will be established.

7. And there will be one Head Office for all the four Union Offices and it will be under the control of one labour commissioner.

The Labour Commissioner should be approached by the Union members in all matters regarding the grievances of the labourers. He will enquire into the matters and thus effect a settlement.

8. If the matters are not settled by the labour commissioner, the enquiry will be taken up by a committee

9. Even if the Committee fails to decide the matters, the same will be referred to the High Court Judge appointed specially for this purpose by the Government.

10. If that High Court Judge's decisions are not satisfactory, the Union members would give a 14 days notice and whereupon they should decide to strike within the period of 2 months (from the 15th day of the above said notice).

50

11. Whether to strike or not will be dicided by taking the opinion of the majority of the labourers.

12. (1) Any person who instigates the ~~law~~ labourers by coersive methods to strike will be punished by giving a sentence of either 15 days R.I or a fine of Rs.25/-.

(2) And if any head of the mining department causes or permits a lock-out without reasonable grounds he will be punished by sentencing him to pay a fine of Rs.2,500 and in addition he will be insisted to pay off the wages to all the coolies for all the days of lock-out.

Govindarajulu closed his speech with his expression of great gratitude and reverance ~~reference~~ to the benevolent Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, Rajasevaprasaktha A.V. Ramanathan, Sri P.R.K. Sharma and the K.G.F. labourers.

(While Govindarajalu was speaking, G. Narayanaswamy of Marikuppam read out the above said points in Tamil).

Next one Gopal Nair of Nandydroog mine spoke. He said that in all Industrial Centres such as, Bombay, America and Europe the labour unions are given and they work forthe betterment of the labourers and the industries as a whole. He requested the labourers to be united and have good faith in the Labour Union. His speech was not appreciated by the gathering since he was not loud.

Thirdly one Rayappan got up and pleaded his incapacity to face such a big gathering and compared himself with Uttaras/o the King Viratta as narrated in the Mahabharatha. He continued with this story and told that it is the great achievement on the part of the K.G.F. labourers to have had the labour union without blood-shed. He said that his father was one of those who died in the Undergrounds without getting the benefits of a labour union. He further said ' My Dear Friends and beloved brothern, I request you to

to beware of many antogonists who try to mislead you and say many evil things against the labour union and as such I once again request you to turn a deaf ear to such people and keep your mouth shut and be united under the banner of the labour union.

Next, one Maistry of Mysore mine (name not known) got up and sang a song which depicted the hard-ships of the K.G.F. labourers both in the Undergrounds and on the surface. The song also referred to the great efforts of Sri V.V. Giri, P.R.K. Sharma and the labourers.

He finished his speech with a request to the gathering to subscribe liberally to the Union, ie., two annas per head. He also commented upon a Maistry who had taken the receipt 6 months back and not paid annas two uptil now. He said that he was ready to give the account for the money he had collected so far if anybody were to check the accounts.

Perumal 'E' Block, Champion Reef spoke next. The gathering did not pay much attention to him as his speech was not effective. But with all that he continued and requested the labourers to be united. He ended his speech with JAYAKARAS to the benevolent Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, Rajasevaprasaktha A.V. Ramanathan, Rajamanthrapravina K. Mathan, Sri V.V. Giri, P.R.K. Sharma, the K.G.F. Labour Union, Phillips, Lakshmana Mudaliar, G. Narayana swamy and the Undesirables at Kuppam.

Ebenezer of Cyanide line, Marikuppam ~~who got~~ was got up in the middle while the other speakers were speaking and addressed the gathering to support the cause of the union, have good faith in the leaders and to be grateful to the benevolent Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, A.V. Ramanathan, and V.V. Giri and P.R.K. Sharma. He further requested the gatheri to give subscriptions to the Union and keep their

52

mouths shut and further warned them not to listen to those who speak ill of the labour union.

Lastly Govindarajalu got up again and announced that the mining authorities have sent up an appeal to the District Magistrate, Kolar against the attachments of the pays of the labourers and the result is awaited, from the High Court. If favourable result is not forthcoming the question would be taken up by the Unions and the concerned Marwaries will be requested to tell the actual amount paid and realised and then request them to take reasonable amounts through the Union from the conerned debtors.

In the end G. Narayanaswamy of Mysore mine got up and read out the following resolutions :-

1. The Government is requested to take immediate provisional measures to establish the labour unions on th fields at an early date.

2. The mine-out labourers should be restored to their jobs.

The resolutions were unanimously approved by the gathering.

Narayanaswamy said that he would send up these resolutions to Rajasevaprasaktha A.V. Ramanathan to-morro He ended the meeting with an announcement to the effect that Sri P.R.K. Sharma would preside over the next meeting on the fields - The gathering was requested to watch for the date. The meeting ended at about 7-15 p.m.

All the labourers dispersed quietly.

***

" COPY "

24.7

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

53 NR/-

D. O. No. 5/41-42/SB.
Encls (4)

SECRET.

101 280/CB

E. G. B. PEEL, Esq., C.I.E.,
Inspector-General of Police
in Mysore.

BANGALORE
July 27, 1941

OFFICE OF THE
MINISTER FOR LAW
JUL 28 1941
No 924

My dear Kesavaiengar,

I enclose for the information of Government a copy of a letter No.C.C. 20/40-41 dated July 26, 1941, received from the Special Superintendent of Police Kolar Gold Fields, regarding the proceedings of a public meeting of the K.G.F.labourers held at Marikuppum on 25th July 1941.

Yours
Peel

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T.Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to the Government of
H.H.the Maharaja of Mysore,Bangalore.

Sd/d
Law Minister
28.7.41
29/7

57

N. PUTTARAMASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 26th July 1941.

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports, I beg to state that one more meeting was held yesterday at the Football Ground, Marikuppam by the K.G.F. labourers. The gathering was about 300 and Messrs. A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar and Perumal of 'I' Block, spoke in Tamil. The meeting commenced at 5.45 p.m. with three cheers to the benign Mysore Government, to His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore and to their President, Sri P.R.K. Sharma.

A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar said that after a lapse of one year they were able to get the Union for which they fought with perseverence and forbearance. When they have got the Union they should realise their responsibility and vote for only those in whom they have got confidence at the election of Office-bearers. He also referred to the rumour about the alleged mis-appropriation of subscriptions collected for the Sangham and said that it is false as there is no scope for misappropriation.

Then Perumal of 'I' Block, complained against a constable of Champion Reef alleging that he terrified him for having taken part in the Sangham activities. Lakshmana Mudaliar then said that they are seriously thinking of sending this information to his Superior Officers. I have called for a report regarding this allegation and will furnish my report after necessary enquiry.

The meeting terminated at 7 p.m. with three cheers to the Benign Mysore Government, His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, Sri A.V. Ramanathan and Sri

55

105

and to Sri P.R.K. Sharma.

Yours sincerely,

SD/- N. PUTTARANGASWAMY,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,(Hon),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

NR/-

Copies in duplicate forwarded, with compliments, to the Superintendent of Police, Special Branch in Mysore Bangalore.

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

56

Proceedings of the meeting held at the Football Ground, Marikuppam on 25-6-1941 at 5.45 p.m.

***

Gathering - 300 labourers.

***

Two spokes and speeches were in Tamil. - They were Messrs. A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar and Perumal of 'I' Block, Champion Reefs.

***

The meeting commenced at 5-45 p.m. with three cheers to the benign Mysore Government, to His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore and Sri P.R.K. Sharma, their President.

A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar said "Labourers! after the lapse of one full year, we have achieved what we wanted. This is due to your unity - untiring energy, perseverence and forbearance through-out. It is praise worthy that you have conducted yourselves in such a way as to impress upon others that nothing could have shaken our unity. You know that we have been empowered to for union in each mine - to frame rules and regulations for its procedure, and to elect members for ourselves. There was much difficulty in passing a resolution of permitting outsiders to work with the Union, in the Assembly. We were successful in that also and we are permitted to include two outsiders in every union. You have also heard in the previous lectures at the same place five days ago and at Robertsonpet day before yesterday that any troubles arising out of any differenc of opinion over any issues between the capitalists and the labourers will be referred to the Labour Commission at Kolar. In case this is not amicably settled, we ha been given the privilege of seeing them through an Industrial Court which will be subsequently established

52 We should not be hasty in any of our actions. Strike must be our last resort. That is the reason why a rule has been passed that any labourers going about

spreading news for strike will be imprisoned for 15 days or fined Rs.25/-. But he will not be sent out of K.G.F. under the mining Act.

Now I want to impress upon one thing. We must not forget about our future. Sangham has been given. Now the entire responsibility lies on our head to see that it is formed well and successfully worked also. For this you must select members as Office-bearers in whom you have confidence and whom you know that they will work sincerely and honestly for the betterment of their co-workers. You must be independent in your opinion when you give votes. You must not be influenced by outside talk and unnecessary tales that are carried against any particular individual. You must judge for yourselves and then determine issues and act upon them. Suppose you elect some Office bearers, you must not cry about and say that they are useless because they have not done what some of you wanted. Government work is not so easy as you may think, it must be carefully done and that too legally done. Otherwise we will be a thorough failure. If you think that one particular Office-bearer in the Union is not trust-worthy, he may be sent out of the Office by vote.

We must see that our grievances are immediately redressed then and there. If any trable arises to-day at 2 p.m. we must hold meeting at 5 p.m. and decide the issues and send the resolutions to the Labour Commissione We must be never late in our action.

Again, we must get our Union registered. We must not give way to any split.

I have been hearing that we are swallowing the money which we receive from you. It is not so easy. Some mischievious-minded fellows have spread this false rumour. The subscriptions collected from you, go through, first, the Block Committee, then through Central Committee, then to the Sangham Office at Kuppam.

We are utilising every pie of it for the Sangham work. We keep accounts also. That will be shown to you later. Labourers! Lastly I want to tell you one thing. Beneign Mysore Government have granted us many things. If we do not know the way to utilise those things for our own advantage, it will be our fault not anybody's.

There was a voice from one old man in the crowd. "When will Sri Sharma come and talk to us like you?". " He will come. That is certain. But his coming depends upon the way in which we behave ourselves. He has struggled for us very hard. He was very anxious about us when he was in the hospital undergoing eye-operation. If you want him here, behave yourselves peacefully and impress upon the minds of the Officers here that his coming here will not in any way cause any disturbance. If it is so, then he will come here soon".

Lastly One thing that worries me foremost is this. It seems that some are dis-satisfied with this even but they must not be hasty. Things must be got slowly.

Then Perumal of 'I' Block, got up and said that he was also a worker like others and he was poor man born ~~up~~ ~~and~~ under poor circumstances. He said"I am afraid of my life. Police are intended to guard us and protect us but a constable of Champion Station by name Ravana Perumal has told me that he would stab me soon. He has also said that he will go to my house to have illegal intercourse with my wife when I go to underground work. This he wants to do because I have been taking some active part for Sangham. I appeal to the Government Officers to help me at this juncture. I am afraid of my life. If I die many who are depending on me will have to die of starvation.

59 Then Lakshmana Mudaliar got up and said that they are seriously thinking of sending this news to the Government Officers for favour of information and also for needful action. Then Lakshmana Mudaliar was

was garlanded. Three cheers were given to the benegn Mysore Government, His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, Sri A.V. Ramanathan and Sri P.R.K. Sharma.

The meeting dispersed at 7 p.m.

***

" COPY "

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

NR/-

2869
C.B.

No.C.C.27/40-41.
Encl. Two.

Office of the Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.
Dated, Kolar the 28th day of July 1941.

From

J.B. Mallaradhya, Esq., M.A.,
Deputy Commissioner(in charge,),
Kolar District, Kolar.

To

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesaviengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore, Bangalore,

JB.
The I.G.P's report in this matter has been sent to Law Minister.
MN
29/7

Sir,

In continuation of this office report of even number dated 25th July 1941, I have the honour to send herewith enclosed, for information, copies of the D.O. letters No.C.C.20/40-41 dated 26-7-1941 and 27-7-1941 along with a copy of the enclosur received from the Special Superintendent of Police, K.G.F., regarding the Labour activities at K.G.F.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Somalaradhya

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER (incharge),
KOLAR DISTRICT, KOLAR.

61

D.O. letter No.C.C.20/40-41, dated 26th July 1941, from the Special Superintendent of Police, K.G.F. to the Deputy Commissioner Kolar District.

In continuation of my previous reports, I beg to state that one more meeting was held yesterday at the Football Ground, Marikuppam by the K.G.F. labourers. The gathering was about 300 and Messrs. A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar and Perumal of 'I' Block, spoke in Tamil. The meeting commenced at 5-45 p.m. with three cheers to the benign Mysore Government, to His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore and to their President, Sri P.R.K. Sharma.

A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar said that after a lapse of one year they were able to get the Union for which they fought with perseverance and forbearance. When they have got the Union, they should realise their responsibility and vote for only those in whom they have got confidence at the election of Office-bearers. He also referred to the rumour about the alleged misappropriation of subscriptions collected for the Sangham and said that it is false as there is no scope for misappropriation.

Then Perumal of 'I' Block, complained against a constable of Champion Reef alleging that he terrified him for having taken part in the Sangham activities. Lakshmana Mudaliar then said that they are seriously thinking of sending this information to his superior officers. I have called for a report regarding this allegation and will furnish my report after necessary enquiry.

The meeting terminated at 7 p.m. with three cheers ~~xx~~ to the benign Mysore Government, His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, Sri A.V. Ramanathan and Sri P.R.K. Sharma.

Proceedings of the meeting held at the Football Ground, Marikuppam on 25-6-1941 at 5-45 p.m.

Gathering - 300 labourers.

Two spoke and speeches were in Tamil. They were Messrs. A.T Lakshmana Mudaliar and Perumal of 'I' Block, Champion Reefs.

The meeting commenced at 5-45 p.m. with three cheers to the benign Mysore Government, to His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore and Sri P.R.K. Sharma their president.

62

A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar said "Labourers! after the lapse of one full year, we have achieved what we wanted. This is due to your unity - untiring energy, perseverance and forbearance throughout. It is praise-worthy that you have conducted yourselves in such a way as to impress upon others that nothing could have shaken our unity. You know that we have been empowered to form union in each mine - to frame rules and regulations for its procedure, and to elect members for ourselves. There was much difficulty in passing a resolution of permitting outsiders to work with the Union, in the Assembly. We were successful in that also and we are permitted to include two outsiders in every union. You have also heard in the previous lecture at the same place five days ago and at Robertsonpet day before yesterday that any troubles arising out of any difference of opinion over any issues between the capitalists and the labourers will be referred to the Labour Commissioner at Kolar. In case this is not amicably settled, we have been given the privilege of seeing them through an Industrial Court which will be subsequently established. We should not be hasty in any of our actions. Strike must be our last resort. That is the reason why a rule has been passed that any labourers going about spreading news for strike will be imprisoned for 15 days or fined Rs.25/-. But he will not be sent out of K.G.F. under the mining Act.

Now I want to impress upon one thing. We must not forget about our future. Sangham has been given. Now the entire responsibility lies on our head to see that it is formed well and successfully worked also. For this you must select members as Office-bearers in whom you have confidence and whom you know that they will work sincerely and honestly for the betterment of their co-workers. You must be independent in your opinion when you give votes. You must not be influenced by outside talk and unnecessary tales that are carried against any particular individual. You must judge for yourselves and then determine issues and act upon them. Suppose you elect some office-bearers, you must not cry about and say that

they

120

circumstances. He said "I am afraid of my life. Police are intended to guard us and protect us but a constable of Champion Station by name Ravana Perumal has told me that he would stab me soon. He has also said that he will go to my house to have illegal intercourse with my wife when I go to underground work. This he wants to do because I have been taking some active part for Sangham. I appeal to the Government Officers to help me at this juncture. I am afraid of my life. If I die many who are depending on me will have to die of starvation."

Then Lakshmana Mudaliar got up and said that they are -- seriously thinking of sending this news to the Government Officers for favour of information and also for needful action. Then Lakshmana Mudaliar was garlanded. Three cheers were given to the benign Mysore Government, His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, Sri A.V.Ramanathan and Sri P.R.K. Sharma.

The meeting dispersed at 7 p.m.

"Copies"

Kolar.
28/7/41.
vkm.?.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, KOLAR DISTT.

D.C.No.C.C.20/40-41, dated 27th July 1941, from the Special Superintendent of Police, K.G.F. to the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

In continuation of my previous reports, I beg to state that there was a talk among some of the coolies that what Govindarajul said in the two meetings was false. Mr. A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar in order to remove this misapprehension was telling G. Narayanas Kanniappan and Indraraj and others of Mysore Mine that what -- Govindarajalu said was true and that there should be no misunderstandings amongst themselves in this matter. The above three persons are reported to have met last evening near the Jubilee Hall Talkies to discuss this matter with Mr. Lakshmanamudaliar.

It is also reported that a notice with the figure of a woman and her child in a somewhat distressed condition with Tamil lette indicating that if things are done carelessly, their wives would become widows, was found pasted to the notice board at Bullen's Shaft, and that all the coolies on seeing this were irritated and wanted to assault the author of this notice. In the meanwhile the underground Captain removed it when all of them went to work as usual.

"Copy"

Kolar.
28th July 1941.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, KOLAR DISTRICT.

vkm.2.

N. PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 27th July 1941.

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports, I beg to state that there was a talk among some of the coolies that what Govindarajalu said in the two meetings was false. Mr. A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar in order to remove this mis-apprehension was telling G. Narayanaswamy, Kanniappan and Indraraj and others of Mysore mine that what Govindarajalu said was true and that there should be no misunderstandings amongst themselves in this matter. The above three persons are reported to have met last evening near the Jubilee Hall Talkies to discuss this matter with Mr. Lakshmana Mudaliar.

It is also reported that a notice with the figure of a woman and her child in a somewhat distressed condition with Tamil letters indicating that if things are done carelessly, their wives would become widows, was found pasted to the notice board at Bullen's Shaft, and that all the coolies on seeing this were irritated and wanted to assault the author of the notice. In the meanwhile the underground Captain removed it when all of them went to work as usual.

Yours sincerely,

SD/- N. PUTTARANGASWAMY,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,(Hon),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

NR/-

Copies in duplicate forwarded, with compliments, to the Superintendent of Police, Special Branch in Mysore, Bangalore.

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

68

D.O. No. 5/41-42/S.B.
Encl.(1).

E. G. B. PEEL, Esq., C.I.E.,
Inspector-General of Police
in Mysore.

SECRET

OFFICE OF THE
MINISTER FOR LAW
AUG 1 1941
No. 1086

317/CB 127

BANGALORE

Dated July 31, 4

My dear Kesavaiengar,

I enclose for the information of Government a copy of a letter No.CC.58/41-42 dated 30th July 1941 received from the Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, regarding ~~the~~ a fire accident in the McTaggers' Shaft, Mysore Mines, Kolar Gold Fields.

Yours
Peel

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Mysore,
Bangalore.

Sd/-
(Law minister)
3/8
1/8

69

PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 30th July 1941.

C.C. 58/ccc

Dear Sir,

I beg to state that there was a Fire accident in the McTaggers' Shaft, 53rd level, Mysore Mine yesterday at 8 a.m. and consequently the coolies of Mysore mine were not allowed to go underground since yesterday afternoon. Their attendence was taken and they were directed to go home. It is ascertained that the fire is now extinguished and that possibly the coolies may be allowed to go underground either to-night or tomorrow.

Yours sincerely,

SD/- N. PUTTARANGASWAMY,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,(Hon),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

NR/-

Copy in duplicate, forwarded with compliments, to the Superintendent of Police, Special Branch in Mysore, B'lore.

30.7

Spl. Superintendent of Police

30/7

. O. No. No.5/41-42/S.B. **SECRET**
Encl.(1).

345 133
CB

E. G. B. PEEL, Esq., C.I.E.
Inspector-General of Police
in Mysore.

BANGALORE

Dated August 2, 4

C... OF THE
MINISTER FOR LAW
AUG 4 1941
No. 1162

My dear Kesavaiengar.

I enclose for the information of Government, a copy of a letter No. CC.20/40-41 dated 1st August 1941 received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, regarding the grant of increments to the surface Coolies of the Champion Reef Mine.

Yours
Peel

Sub
(Law Minister)
4.8.41
578

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Mysore,
Bangalore.

2/8

N. PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 1st August 1941.

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports I beg to state that this day morning at about 1 a.m. all the Surface coolies of the Champion Reef mine approached the Chief Engineer for grant of increment on the score that some of them were granted while others were not granted. He directed to them to go to the Superintendent as he cannot grant the increment himself. The coolies went and saw the Superintendent and he stated that some of them were given increments recently and that the cases of others would be considered next month. They then represented that they may be given work on Sundays to which the Superintendent replied that there would practicably be no work on Sundays and that there is some probability of giving them the work of cutting of iron plates for the Bangalore Airoplane Factory. The coolies then went to work.

Yours sincerely,

SD/- N. PUTTARANGASWAMY,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,(Hon),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

Copies in duplicate, forwarded with compliments to the Superintendent of Police, Special Branch in Mysore, Bangalore.

N. Puttarangaswamy

Spl. Superintendent of Police
Kolar Gold Fields.

72

No.C.C.27/40-41.
Encl. One.

Office of the Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.
Dated, Kolar the 4th day of August 1941.

From

S. Narayana Rao, Esq., M.A.(Hons.).,
Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

OFFICE OF THE
MINISTER FOR LAW
AUG 5 1941
No. 1227

To

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesaviengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to Government of
His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, Bangalore.

Sir,

In continuation of my D.O. letter of even number of this date, I have the honour to enclose herewith for information, a copy of the Telephone Message received in this Office to-day regarding the labour situation at K.G.F.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

S. Narayana Rao

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
KOLAR DISTRICT.

Subd
Law Minister

vkm.4.

TELEPHONE MESSAGE RECEIVED FROM KOLAR GOLD FIELDS.

To

The Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

One Lakshmana Mudaliar has come to-day from Kuppam and he has been influencing the labourers to attend to their work. As such, many coolies are getting back to their work and final intimation will be sent shortly.

(Received by Mr. G.A. Narayana Setty, i/c D.T.O & P.A.)

" Copy"

Kolar.
4th August 1941.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, KOLAR DISTRICT.

vkm.4.

361 141
CB

No.C.C.27 of 41-42.

Office of the Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

Dated, Kolar the 4th day of August 1941

DEWAN'S OFFICE
6. AUG. 1941
No. 1059

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR LAW
AUG 5 1941
No. 1226

Dear Sir,

The Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, telephoned this morning that the workmen of the Nundydroog Mine demanded higher wages when they came up for the morning shift this morning on account of the rise in prices and wanted an assurance from the Superintendent, when they were told that their request would be considered. As no such assurance could be given, they went back without going to work. I am in touch with the Special Superintendent of Police and shall report further developments from time to time.

Yours sincerely,

S. Narayanaswamy

Sd/
Law Minister) 5/8

I heard by 'phone that the men went back to work in the afternoon shift

Dewan) 5/8

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesaviengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to Government of
H.H. the Maharaja of Mysore, Bangalore.

7/8/41

vkm.4.

386/CB 143

No.C.C.27/40-41.

Encls. 3 reports with enclosures.

Office of the Deputy Commissioner,

Kolar District.

Dated, Kolar the 6th day of August 1941.

From

S. Narayana Rao, Esq., M.A.(Hons.).,
Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

To

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesaviengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to Government of
H.H. the Maharaja of Mysore, Bangalore.

CB.
Copy recd from the I.G.P. Res. Inv. Subd. Verify.
8/8/41

Sir,

In continuation of my letter of even number dated 4-8-41, regarding the labour situation at K.G.F., I have the honour to enclose herewith copies of D.O.letters No.C.C.20/40-41, dated 1st, 4th and 5th August 1941 together with copies of enclosure received from the Special Superintendent of Police, K.G.F. for information.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

S. Narayana Rao

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
KOLAR DISTRICT.

vkm.4.

D.O. letter No.C.C.20/40-41, dated 1st August 1941, from the Special Superintendent of Police, K.G.F. to the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

In continuation of my previous reports, I beg to state that this day morning at about 1 a.m. all the Surface coolies of the Champion Reef Mine approached the Chief Engineer for grant of increments, on the score that some of them were granted while others were not granted. He directed to them to go to the Superintendent as he cannot grant the increment himself. The coolies went and saw the Superintendent and he stated that some of them were given increments recently and that the cases of others would be considered next month. They then represented that they may be given work on Sundays to which the Superintende replied that there would practicably be no work on Sundays and that there is some probability of giving them the work of cuttin of iron plates for the Bangalore Airoplane Factory. The coolie then went to work.

" Copy "

6/8/41

Kolar.
6/8/41.
vkm.3.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, KOLAR DISTRICT.

D.O.letter No.C.C.20/40-41, dated 4th August 1941, from the Special Superintendent of Police, K.G.F. to the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

In continuation of my previous reports, regarding the Labour situation at K.G.F., I beg to state that Mr. P.R.K. Sharma of Madras arrived at Bowringpet yesterday morning by the Passenger train at 7-45 a.m. Mr. Govindaraj of Champion Reef Mine and about 20 others of all the mines met him on the platform. Mr. Sharma seems to have told them that he came there to explain to them the benefits of the new Labour Legislation in Mysore which is also published recently in the Newspapers. Mr. Sharma told them that this legislation guards the interests of the labourers and indicates the willingness of Government to co-operate in the formation of Labour Unions in all the Industrial Organisations in the State and serves as a medium for the reconciliation between the Capitalists and the labourers besides enforcing the necessary element of legal coercion in the award of ultimate tribunal. He also referred to his having made a reference to Mr. T.G. Rathford, Adviser to the Government of Madras for enacting similar legislation there and that he had received a reply that this was being closely considered by the Government. It is reported that thereafter Mr. Sharma went to the Harijan Hostel at Bowringpet and in the compound of the hostel about a hundred labourers had gone thei from K.G.F. He told the audience in Tamil the provisions of the new Mysore Labour Act and assured them that Mr. Mathan's report was very promising as it contained favourable recommendatic regarding the question of leave, residential quarters, wages etc. He advised the people to co-operate in the formation of the Union and work within the provisions of the New Labour Act, when the was asked about the notices served upon some of the labourers under th Mysore Mines Act he told them that everything depended as to how they conducted themselves. Mr. Sharma also told them that the Government was sympathetically considering the question regarding the attachment of wages by the Munsiff Court. Then the labourers dispersed. In the afternoon after learning about the arrival of Mr. Chengalrai Reddi from Bethamangala, Mr. Sharma went and met him at the platform of the Kolar-Bowringpet Railway Station. Mr.

37

N.B

Mr. Sharma left Bowringpet by Mail train in the night.

This morning the coolies of Nandydroog Mine assembled at Henry Shaft, put forth their demands for increasing their wages on the score of the increase in the prices of food-stuffs. The Superintendent promised to examine the question and let them know the decision after consultation with the other Superintendents. The coolies were not satisfied with this and they demanded that the matter should be decided at once. Then they refused to go underground for work and were standing and discussing among themselves in groups. About 40 or 50 of them came out of the Shaft and went to the Bowringpet Road and began throwing a few stones over the Zinc Sheet roof of the Shaft. The local Police persuaded them to go away. Afterwards all the labourers went back to their houses without going for work. About a hundred of them went near the Workshops and demanded the persons working in the Workshops to be sent out. Some of them are reported to have pelted stones to intimidate the workmen to come outside leaving the work. The local Police arrived at the spot and sent them away. The coolies of the Workshops came out by about 10 a.m. Except in the Mill, the work in all the surface work and underground sections had been temporarily stopped.

At 12 noon about 1000 labourers gathered in the Survey Thope near the Oriental Lines and Kuttikrishna Nair, Dhorairaj, Lakshmana Mudaliar and Indhiraraj addressed the people and persuaded them to resume work in the afternoon shift. Afterwards, the persons assembled agreed to go to work. Lakshmana Mudaliar, Indraraj, Narayanaswami and Dhorairaj and Kuttikrishna Nair are reported to have gone and seen the Superintendent of Nundydroog Mine at his bungalow and ~~p~~ represented to him for an increase in the wages on account of the increase in the price of ~~p~~food-stuffs. The Superintendent of Nundydroog Mine is said to have promised to consider the request in consultation with the other Superintendents. They also seem to have represented that the morning shift people who did not go underground in the morning may be allowed to go in the afternoon shift. The Superintendent seems to have told them that it was not possible. I am enclosing herewith

herewith a copy of the English translation regarding the proceedings of the meeting convened at 12 noon.

All the labourers of the afternoon shift both on the surface and in the under-graund resumed work and the situation is normal.

Further developments will be duly watched and reported.

" Copy "

Kolar.
6/8/41.
vkm.2.

6/8/41

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, KOLAR DISTRICT.

78

In continuation of my S.B. report of even date, beg to state that a meeting of the labourers was held this day at 12 noon in the Survey Tope near Oriental lines under the auspices of the Labour Union. Kutti Krishna Nair of Nundydroog Mines presided. There was a gathering of about 1,000 labourers mostly of the lower class.

Kutti Krishna Nair began speaking in Tamil. He stated that the whole world was entangled in the War and every Nation was suffering either directly or indirectly owing to the War. It is true that the labourers are under a great handicap owing to the increase of price of food-stuffs but then, he advised them, that what they did this morning was not a right way of reducing their grievances. He continued that there was a Labour Union ~~xxxxxxxxx~~ ~~xxxxxxxxxxx~~ and the labourers had to approach primarily the Labour Union to redress their wrongs and that Sharma had come and he had a talk with Sharma. Sharma had advised them to keep quiet for a month when in the meanwhile the Labour Union will be recognised and will have a status of a recognised Union and all the mining authorities as well as the Government will have respect for the Union. He stated that by striking to-day, the labourers had brought a bad name to the Union as well as its founder Mr. Sharma. Anyway, he continued, that it was no good crying over the broken china cup but advised them all to go for work at 3 O' clock shift. He asked them to lift up hands who were willing to go for work and all of them lifted their hands showing their -- willingness to go for work.

Dorairaj of Nandydroog mine then addressed the meeting and said that he was surprised to find them having struck work without any notice and stated he was at a loss to know under whose instructions they struck work. Meanwhile Venkatachalam, Driver of -- Nandydroog Mines got up from the audience and said that it was not right to disclose the names of persons who influenced to strike work this morning since their names if they came up to public light they will lose their jobs and get into trouble. Venkatachallam continued that he did not care for the Labour Union and that he

would

52

would directly approach the Superintendent and asked the labourers to come up with them to the Superintendent. About 200 labourers accompanied by Venkatachallam walked out of the gathering but Indraraj, Joseph and Kutti Krishna Nair influenced Venkatachalam and his party not to go away from the gathering and pacified the situation.

Kutti Krishna Nair continued again and advised them not to hasten matters and they must behave and act in a constitutional manner when Laxmana Mudaliar and Narayanaswamy came to the meeting when every labourer sat quiet anxious to hear Lakshmana Mudaliar.

Lakshmana Mudaliar then spoke. He stated that after an year's hard struggle, they have got recognition to the Labour Union and they had also got permission to cancel the undersirable notices and restore them ~~xx~~ them to their original jobs. He added that Sharma would be visiting K.G.F. within 5 days and continued that the labour Union and its founder had toiled hard to bring the Union ~~xxx~~ to a high standard. He exhorted the labourers to join the Union and ~~a~~ stated that within a month a labour union will be formed for each mine and that he will see that the labourers will get War allowances retrospectively from the date of the commencement of the work. He added that the Mathan's recommendations were approved and would come into force within a month. He continued that if they had any grievances, they should convene a public meeting and send the proceedings of the meeting to the labour union which will ~~xx~~ in turn represent the same to the mining authorities. He promised them that he would himself speak to the mining Superintendent and advised them to go for work and felt that by their act of this morning they had not only insulted him but also Sharma and the Labour Union. He concluded by saying that every labourer should get back for work and in due course will inform them the result of the interview by convening a meeting or publication.

Indraraj of Marikuppam next spoke. He reiterated what Lakshmana Mudaliar spoke and advised them to go back for their work.

work.

Lakshmana Mudaliar then concluded by folding his hands and appealing them all to get back for work.

The meeting concluded at 1-30 p.m.

Later at 2 p.m. Lakshmana Mudaliar, Indraraj and G.Narayanaswamy and Doraraj, Kuttikrishna Nair after the meeting, met the Superintendent, Nandydroog Mines at the latter's bungalow. They seem to have represented that owing to the ennancement of rates of food-stuffs, the labourers are feeling hard to meet both ends for which the Superintendent seems to have promised them that after consulting with the other mining Superintendents and Government he will do the needful within 3 days. Lakshmana Mudaliar, G. Narayanaswamy and Indraraj went towards Mysore Mines at about 2-45 p.m.

The labourers are all going for 3 O' clock shift.

Sd. B. Naghabhushanaradhya,
Sub Inspectór, Bi.
4-8-41.

"Copy"

Sd. N. Puttarangaswamy,
Spl. Superintendent of Police,K.G.F.

" COPY "

Kolar.
6/8/41.
vkm.2.

S. Narayana 6/8/41

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, KOLAR DISTRICT.

81

D.O. letter No.C.C.20/40-41, dated 5th August 1941, from the Special Superintendent of Police, K.G.F. to the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

In continuation of my report of yesterday, I beg to state that there was another meeting of the labourers yesterday evening at 6-30 p.m. in the maidan near Picket line, Champion Reef, the gathering being about 500 in all. It was arranged by A.T. Laks Mudaliar and Govindarajalu of Oorgaum mine and the latter presid Gnanam first spoke and said that he gave a petition to the Super intendent of the Champion Reef mine, regarding the grant of war allowances, bonus etc., and that the Superintendent has replied that he would make proper arrangements. Next Govindarajalu spo as to how he was selected as the representative of the labourers what he did there. He also announced that Mr. P.R.K.Sharma wou go over to K.G.F. on 11-8-41 to speak in the meeting. Next Laks Mudaliar said that it was a mistake that Nandydroog mine laboure struck work yesterday without consulting the Committee members a that now that Mysore Government have given them a Union nothing should be done without the Sangham. He also said that Mr.P.R.K Sharma would speak on the 10th or 11th instant and he has given publicity of the same and that nobody need be afraid of Police.

Kanniappa then exhorted the audience to pay regular subscriptions for the Sangham and not to resort to disturbances.

Finally, Lakshmana Mudaliar announced that there would be a meeting on the 6th instant at the same place and closed the meetin with three cheers to the Government.

A copy of the English Translation of the meeting proceedings is enclosed for kind perusal.

" Copy "

Kolar.
6/8/41.
vkm.2.

6/8

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, KOLAR DISTRICT.

82

Proceedings of the meeting of labourers held at 6-30 p.m. at the Maidan near 'P' Block, Champion Reef, on 4-8-1941.

Meeting was arranged by A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar and Govindarajlu Bellman, Oorgaum Mine. About 500 labourers had gathered. Govind Rajalu, Bellman, Oorgaum mine presided. Gnanam of 'D' Block, Champion Reefs, Govindarajalu and A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar and Kanniappa of Marikuppam spoke. The speeches were in Tamil.

1. Gnanam spoke first in Tamil. "Brave friends! We, the committee members have given a petition to the Superintendent of Champion Reef Mine. The petition contanins the following items:- (1) Facilities regarding houses (2) increment of wages (3) War allowance (4) Bonus, (5) Club. The Superintendent has replied that he would make proper arrangements regarding the demands of the labourers. I express my gratefulness to the Mysore Government and the authorities for having permitted us to convey these matters to all the labourers by holding public meetings.

Next Govindarajalu spoke. "The Government and the mining authorities told me that I was selected as a representative of the labourers to go to Bangalore and represent things on behalf of all the labourers. Thinking that the labourers will suspect me I wrote to Government stating that I cannot come to Bangalore. This matter was somehow learnt by A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar, K.C. Phillips, -- Shanmugham and the committee members. They asked me to go over to Kuppam. At Kuppam they told me that the labourers and Sangham have no suspicion on me and I must go to Bangalore and represent matters on behalf of the labourers. Accordingly I went to Bangalore and represented the matters on behalf of the labourers to A.V.Ramanathan and other Government Officers. Our endeavours will soon end in success. Some may doubt that I might have been influenced by the Government and the mining authorities. But I request you not to inculcate any such suspicions in your minds. On 3-8-41, Sri P.R.K. Sharma had been to Bowringpet and many of our leaders had gone there to meet him. Sri P.R.K.Sharma might have told them about me. The ~~Super~~ Secretaries Messrs. G. Narayanaswamy of Mysore mine and Kuttikrishna Nair of Nandydroog mine had been to Madras and spoke with him doubting my being the representative. But Sri Sharma has answered in favour of me. P.R.K.Sharma has

158

told G. Narayanaswamy at Bowringpet that he would obtain permission and go over to K.G.F. on 10 or 11-8-1941 to address the K.G.F. labourers in public meeting. Brothers! If you have any doubts please ask me directly. We should not strike without proper reason.

Then A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar got up and spoke. Brothers! Hereafter if we want to strike we should not strike without informing the Committee members and the Sangham. I regret very much for the Nandydroog labourers having struck work for the war-allowance. If we want to ask for anything we must ask it through our Sangham. In case the Company authorities do not reply to our demands immediately, we must wait for one week or at the most for 15 days. And then we must give them in writing that we are going to strike. If we want to strike we should not do so without the consent of the Sangham. At this time our Mysore Government are very sympathetic towards us. The Law Minister A.V.Ramanathan has been very favourable for the labourers. We have published what was discussed in the legislative Assembly at Bangalore. Our leader P.R.K.Sharma will go over to K.G.F. on 10-8-1941 or 11-8-1941 and speak to us in a public meeting. Therefore I request you all not to strike for any reason.

This evening I had sent one person to beat tom-tom in the lines and announce the meeting here this evening. It appears one Police man asked his address, his ticket number etc. But I assure you that you should be least afraid of them. You know Why? All their powers are no more. I cannot describe the anxieties of a policeman who had threatened one of our Committee member to stop etc. (Cheers in the gathering). They threaten us and their threat is only a show. They are very much afraid inwardly.

Kanniappa spoke next. "Our work is about to end in success. I request you not to allow any disturbances or any anti-works among you. I regret that some of our Sangham members are not regular in their subscriptions. We do not eat away the money collected in the name of the Sangham. It will be used only for the Sangham. We are prepared to show you the accounts whenever you like. I

request

84

request you all to subscribe annas two per head per month.

Again Lakshmana Mudaliar got up and said "I am arranging for a meeting in the same ground on Wednesday the 6th August 1941. I request you all to attend the meeting without fail. It is sure and certain that Sharma will come and speak on 10 or 11-8-1941.

The meeting terminated at about 7-50 p.m. with three cheers to the Government.

"Copy"
Sd. N. Puttarangaswamy,
Spl. Supdt. of Police, K.G.F.

Kolar.
6/8/41.
vkm.2.

"Copy"

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, KOLAR DISTT.

D. O. No. 5/41-42/SB.
Encls(6).

SECRET.

371/CB 161

E. G. B. PEEL, Esq., C.I.E.,
Inspector-General of Police
in Mysore.

BANGALORE

August 5, 1941.

OFFICE OF THE
MINISTER FOR LAW
AUG 6 1941
No 1251

My dear Kesavaiengar.

I enclose for the information of Government a copy of a letter No.CC. 20/40-41 dated August 4, 1941, received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, regarding the activities of Mr.P.R.K.Sharma of Madras.

Yours [illegible]

Rajasevaprasakta
B. T. Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to the Govt. of
H.H.the Maharaja of Mysore,
Bangalore.

Subd
Law Minister & Dewan
6/8/41
Bre 6/8/41
7/8/41
8/8/41

N. PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs, 163
Dated 4th August 1941.

/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports, regarding the labour situation at K.G.F., I beg to state that Mr. P.R.K. Sharma of Madras arrived at Bowringpet yesterday morning by the Passenger train at 7-45 a.m. Mr. Govindaraj of Champion Reef mine and about 20 others of all the mines met him on the Platform. Mr. Sharma seems to have told them that he came there to explain to them the benefits of the new Labour Legislation in Mysore which is also published recently in the Newspapers. Mr. Sharma told them that this legislation guards the interest of the labourers and indicates the willingness of Government to co-operate in the formation of Labour Unions in all the Industrial Organisations in the State and serves as a medium for the reconcilation between the Capitalists and the labourers besides enforcing the necessary element of legal coercion in the award of an ultimate tribunal. He also referred to his having made a reference to Mr. T.G. Ratherford, Adviser to the Government of Madras for enacting similar Legislation there and that he had received a reply that this was being closely considered by the Government. It is reported that thereafter Mr. Sharma went to the Harijan Hostel at Bowringpet and in the compound of the hostel about a hundred labourers ~~who~~ had gone there from K.G.F. He told the audience in Tamil the provisions of the New Mysore Labour Act and assured them that Mr. Mathan's report was very promising as it contained favourable recommendations regarding the question of leave, residential quarters, wages etc. He advised the people to cooperate in the formation of the Union and work within the provisions of the New

Labour Act; when he was asked about the notices served upon some of the labourers under the Mysore Mines Act he told them that everything depended as how they conducted themselves. Mr. Sharma also told them that the Government was sympathetically considering the question regarding the attachment o wages by the Munsiff Court. Then the labourers dispersed. In the afternoon after learning about the arrival of Mr. Chengalrai Reddi from Bethamangala, Mr. Sharma went and met him at the Platform of the Kolar-Bowringpet Railway station. Mr. Sharma left Bowringpet by Mail train in the night.

This morning the coolies of Nandydroog mine assembled at Henry Shaft, put forth their demands for increasing their wages on the score of the increase in the prices of food-stuffs. The Superintendent promised to examine the question and let them know the decision after consultation with the other Superintendents. The coolies were not satisfied with this and they demanded that the matter should be decided at once. Then they refused to go underground for work and were standing and discussing among themselves in groups. About 40 or 50 of them came out of the Shaft and went to the Bowringpet Road and began throwing a few stones over the Zinc sheet roof of the Shaft. The local Police persuaded them to go away. Afterwards all the labourers went back to their houses without going for work. About a hundred of them went near the Workshops and demanded the persons working in the Workshops to be sent out. Some of them are reported to have pelted stones to intimidate the workmen to come outside leaving work. The local Police arrived at the spot and sent them away. The coolies of the Workshops came out by about 10 a.m. Except in the Mill the work in all the Surface work and underground sections had been

temporarily stopped.

At 12 noon about 1000 labourers gathered in the Survey Thope near the Oriental lines and Kuttikrishna Nair, Dhorairaj, Lakshmana Mudaliar and Indhiraraj addressed the people and persuaded them to resume work in the afternoon shift. After, the persons assembled agreed to go to work. Lakshmana Mudaliar, Indraraj, Narayanswami and Dhorairaj and Kuttikrishna Nair are reported to have gone and seen the Superintendent of Nandydroog mine at his Bungalow and represented to him for an increase in the wages on account of the increase in the price of food-stuffs. The Superintendent is said to have promised to consider the request in consultation with the other Superintendents. They also seem to have represented that the morning Shift people who did not go underground in the morning may be allowed to go in the afternoon shift. The Superintendent seems to have told them that it was not possible. I am enclosing herewith a copy of the English Translation regarding the proceedings of the meeting convened at 12 noon.

All the Labourers of the afternoon Shift both on the Surface and in the underground resumed work and the situation is normal. Further developments will be duly watched and reported.

Yours sincerely,

SD/- N. PUTTARANGASWAMY,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,(Hon),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

Copies in duplicate, forwarded with compliments, to the Superintendent of Police, Special Branch in Mysore, Bangalore.

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

87

In continuation of my S.B. report of even date, beg to state that a meeting of the labourers was held this day at 12 noon in the Survey Tope near Oriental lines under the auspices of the Labour Union. Kutti Krishna Nair of Nandydroog mines presided. There was a gathering of about 1,000 labourers mostly of the lower class.

Kutti Krishna Nair began speaking in Tamil. He state that the whole world was entangled in the War and every Nation was suffering either directly or indirectly owing to the War. It is true that the labourers are under a great handicap owing to the increase of price of food-stuf but then, he advised them, that what they did this morning was not a right way of reducing their greivances. He continued that there was a Labour Union and the labourers had to approch primarily the Labour Union to redress thei wrongs and that Sharma had come and he had a talk with Sharma. Sharma had advised them to keep quiet for a mont when in the meanwhile the labour union will be recognised and will have a status of a recognised union and all the mining authorities as well as the Government will have respect for the Union. He stated that by striking to-day, the labourers had brought a bad name to the Union as well as its founder Mr. Sharma. Anyway, he continued, that it was no good crying over the broken China cup but advised them all to go for work at 3 O'Clock shift. He asked them to lift up hands who were willing to go for work and all of them lifted their hands showing their willingness to go for work.

Dorairaj of Nandydroog mine then addressed the meeting and said that he was surprised to find them having struck work without any notice and stated he was at a loss to know under whose instructions they struck work. Leanwhile Venkatachalam, Driver of Nandydroog mines got up from the audience and said that it was not right to disclose the names of persons who influenced to strike work this morning since their names if they came up to public light,

they will loose their jobs and get in to trouble. Venkatachalam continued that he did not care for the labour union and that he would directly approach the Superintendent and asked the labourers to come up with them to the Superintendent. About 200 labourers accompanied by Venkatachalam walked out of the gather but Indraraj, Joseph and Kutti Krishna Nair influenced Venkatachalam and his party not to go away from the gathering and pacified the situation.

Kutti Krishna Nair continued again and advise them not to hasten matters and they must behave and act in a constitutional manner when Laxmana Mudaliar and Narayanaswamy came to the meeting when every labourer sat quiet anxious to hear Lakshmana Mudaliar.

Lakshmana Mudaliar then spoke. He stated that after an year's hard struggle, they have got recognition to the labour union and they had also got permission to cancel the undesirable notices and restore them to them to their original jobs. He added that Sharma would be visiting K.G.F. within 5 days and continued that the Labour Union and its founder had toiled hard to bring the Union to an high standard. He exhorted the labourers to join the Union and stated that within a month a labour union will be formed for each mine and that he will see that the labourers will get War allowance ~~respectively~~ retrospectively from the date of the commencement of the work. He added that the Mathan's recommendations were approved and would come into force within a month. He continued that if they had any grievances, they should convene a public meeting and send the proceedings of the meeting to the labour union which will in turn represent the same to the mining authorities. He promised them that he would himself speak to the mining Superintendent and advised them to go for work and felt that by their act of this morning they had not only insulted him but also Sharma and the labour union. He concluded by saying

that every labourers should get back for work and in due course will inform them the result of the interview by convening a meeting or publication.

Indraraj of Marikuppam next spoke. He reiterated what Lakshmana Mudaliar spoke and advised them to go back for their work.

Lakshmana Mudaliar then concluded by folding his hands and appealing them all to get back for work.

The meeting concluded at 1-30 p.m.

Later at 2 p.m. Lakshmana Mudaliar, Indraraj and G. Narayanaswamy and Doraraj, Kuttikrishna Nair after the meeting, met the Superintndent, Nandydroog mines at the latter's bungalow. They seem to have represented that owing to the enhancement of rates of food-stuffs the labourers are feeling hard to meet both ends for which the Superintendent seems to have promised them that after consulting with the other mining Superintendents and Government he will do the needful within 3 days. Lakshmana Mudaliar, G. Narayanaswamy and Indraraj went towards Mysore mines at about 2.45 p.m.

The labourers are all going for 3 O'Clock Shift.

SD/- B. NAGABHUSHANA RADHY.
Sub Inspector, Bl.
D/4/8/41.

92

***

" COPY "

Dubbersampuswamy

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

NR/-

9/8/41

SECRET

D. O. No. 5/41-42/S.B.
Encls.(4)

387/CB. 175

G. B. PEEL, Esq., C.I.E.,
Inspector-General of Police
in Mysore.

BANGALORE

Dated August 6, 1941.

DEWAN'S OFFICE
11. AUG. 1941
No. 1162

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR LAW
AUG 8 1941
No. 310

I enclose for the information of Government a copy of a letter No. CC.20/40-41 dated August 5, 1941, received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, regarding the proceedings of a public meeting of the labourers held at Champion Reef on 4-8-1941.

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Mysore,
Bangalore.

N. PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 5th August 1941.

177

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my report of yesterday, I beg to state that there was another meeting of the labourers yesterday evening at 6-30 p.m. in the maidan near Picket Line, Champion Reef the gathering being about 500 in all. It was arranged by A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar and Govindarajalu of Oorgaum mine and the latter presided. Gnanam first spoke and said that he gave a petition to the Superintendent of the Champion Reef mine, regarding the grant of War-Allowance, bonus etc., and that the Superintendent has replied that he would make proper arrangements. Next Govindarajalu spoke as to how he was selected as the representative of the labourers and what he did there. He also announced that Mr. P.R.K. Sharma would go over to K.G.F. on 11-8-1941 to speak in the meeting. Next Lakshmana Mudaliar said that it was a mistake that Nandydroog mine labourers struck work yesterday without consulting the Committee members and that now that Mysore Government have given them a Union nothing should be done without the Sangham. He also said that Mr. P.R.K. Sharma would speak on the 10th or 11th instant and he has given publicity of the same and that nobody need be afraid of Police.

Kanniappa then exhorted the audience to pay regular subscriptions for the Sangham and not to resort to disturbances.

Finally Lakshmana Mudaliar announced that there would be a meeting on the 6th instant at the same place and closed the meeting with three cheers to the Government.

A copy of the English Translation of the meeting proceedings is enclosed for kind perusal.

97

Yours sincerely,
SD/- N. PUTTARANGASWAMY,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,(Hon),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar.

178

Copies in duplicate forwarded, with compliments, to the Superintendent of Police, Special Branch in Mysore, Bangalore.

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

NR/-

Proceedings of the meeting of labourers held at 6-30 p.m. at the maidan near 'P' Block, Champion Reef on 4-8-41.

***

Meeting was arranged by A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar and Govindarajaly of Oorgaum mine. About 500 labourers had gathered. Govindarajaly, Bellman, Oorgaum mine presided. Ghanam of 'D' Block, Champion Reefs, Govindarajalu and A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar and Kanniappa of Marikuppam spoke. The speeches were in Tamil.

1. Ghanam spoke first in Tamil. "Brame friends! We the committee members have given a petition to the Superintendent of Champion Reef mine. The petition contains the following items :- (1) Facilities regarding houses (2) increment of wages (3) War Allowance (4) Bonus, (5) Club. The Superintendent has replied that he would make proper arrangements regarding the demands of the labourers. I express my gratefulness to the Mysore Government and the authorities for having permitted us to convey these matters to all the labourers by holding public meetings.

Next Govindarajalu spoke : "The Government and the mining authorities told ~~him~~ me that ~~he~~ I was selected as a representative of the labourers to go to Bangalore and represent things on behalf of all the labourers. Thinking that the labourers will suspect me I wrote to Government stating that I cannot come to Bangalore. This matter was somehow learnt by A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar, K.C. Phillips, Shanmugam and the committee members. They asked me to go over to Kuppam. At Kuppam they told me that the labourers and Sangham have no suspicion on me and I must go to Bangalore and represent matters on behalf of the labourers. Accordingly I went to Bangalore and represented the matters on behalf of the labourers to A.V. Ramanathan and the other Government Officers. Our endeavours will soon end in success. Some may doubt that I might have been influenced by the Government and the mining authorities. But I request you not to inculcate any such suspicions in

in your minds. On 3-8-41 Sri P.R.K. Sharma had been to Bowringpet and many of our leaders had gone there to meet him. Sri P.R.K. Sharma might have told them about me. The Secretaries Messrs. G. Narayanaswamy of Mysore mine an Kuttikrishna Nair of Nandydroog mine had been to Madras and spoke with him doubting my being the representative. But Sri Sharma has answered in favour of me. P.R.K. Shar has told G. Narayanswamy at Bowringpet that he would obtain permission and go over to K.G.F. on 10 or 11-8-41 to address the K.G.F. labourers in public meeting. Brothers! If you have any doubts please ask me directly. We should not strike without proper reason.

Then A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar got up and spoke. Brothers! Hereafter if we want to strike we should not strike without informing the Committee members and the Sangham. I regret very much for the Nandydroog labourers having struck work for the war-allowance. If we want to ask for anyt ing we must ask it through our Sangham. In case the Company authorities do not reply to our demands immediately we must wait for one week or at the most for 15 days. And then we must give them in writing that we are going to strike. If we want to strike we should not do so without the consent of the Sangham. At this time our Mysore Government are very sympathetic towards us. The Law Minister A. V. Ramanathan has been very favourable for the labourers. We have published that was discussed in the Legislative Assembly at Bangalore. Our leader P.R.K. Sharma will go over to K.G.F on 10- or 11-8-41 and speak to us in a public meeting. Therefore I request you all not to strike for any reason.

This evening I had sent one person to beat tom-tom in the lines and announce the meeting here this evening. It appears one Police man asked his address, his ticket number etc. But I assure you that you should be least afraid of them. You know why? All their powers are no more. I cannot describe the anxieties of a Police man who had threatened one of our Committee member to stop etc

183

(Cheers in the gathering). They threaten us and their threat is only a show. They are very much afraid inwardly.

Kanniappa spoke next. "Our work is about to end in success. I request you not to allow any disturbances or any anti-works among you. I regret that some of our Sangham members are not regular in their subscriptions. We do not eat away the money collected in the name of the Sangham. It will be used only for the Sangham. We are prepared to show you the accounts whenever you like. I request you all to subscribe annas two per head per month.

Again Lakshmana Mudaliar got up and said "I am arranging for a meeting in the same ground on Wednesday the 6th August 1941. I request you all to attend the meeting without fail. It is sure and certain that Sharma will come and speak on 10 or 11-8-4

The meeting terminated at about 7-50 p.m. with three cheers to the Government."

***

" COPY "

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

NR/-

98

400/CB

No.C.C.27/40-41.
Encl. Two. 2
Notice

Office of the Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.
Dated, Camp:Oorgaum the 7th day of Aug., 1941

From.

S. Narayana Rao, Esq., M.A. (Hons.).,
Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

To

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesaviengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to Government of
H.H. the Maharaja of Mysore, Bangalore.

CB.
I.G.P.'s attention has been called.
9/8/41

Sir,

In continuation of my letter of even number dated 6th August 1941, regarding the activities of the labourers at K.G.F., I have the honour to forward herewith, for information, a copy of D.O. letter No.C.C.20/40-41, dated 6th August 1941, together with a copy of its enclosure, received from the Special Superintendent of Police, K.G.F.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

S. Narayana Rao

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
KOLAR DISTRICT.

vkm.4.

99

D.O.letter No.C.C.20/40-41, dated 6th August 1941, from the Special Superintendent of Police, K.G.F. to the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

In continuation of my report of yesterday, I beg to state that another meeting was held at the Rugby Ground, Oorgaum yesterday at 6-40 p.m. by the K.G.F. labourers. About 600 labourers had collected and A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar presided. The President cried cheers to Mr. P.R.K.Sharma and the Mysore Government and introduced KuttiKrishna Nair to the audience. The latter said that as per their promise they met the Superintendent of the Nandydroog mine and represented their grievances to him and that as a result of their interview the Superintendent has issued printed notices showing some concessions in the matter of recognition of Labour Associations, increase of attendance bonus etc. He further added that it is true that the Superintendent did not give them what they wanted and had asked for i.e., increase of wages and war-allowances but that there is their Union to settle the question and no amount of individual requests or threats would be of any avail. He concluded by saying that they should all be patient and at the same time strengthen the Sangham.

Indraraj next spoke likewise and exhorted the audience to join the League and strengthen the association. The next speaker Lakshmana Mudaliar said that he is glad that the coolies resumed work as per their advice, and that to get more facilities they should not create disturbances but wait patiently for the recognition of the Union. He further added that they are all anxiously waiting for the publication of Sri Mathan's report, that the notices issued against K.C. Phillips, & Dr. Subramanyam should be cancelled, and that the mine-out labourers should get back their jobs here. He finally appealed to the coolies to pay subscriptions to the Union which is meant for the upliftmen of the poor labourers. Narayanaswamy who next spoke reiterated the same thing.

The meeting terminated at 8 p.m. with three cheers to Mysore Government, Messrs. A.V. Ramanathan, P.R.K.Sharma, -

188

V.V. Giri, K.C. Phillips, Lakshmana Mudaliar and the Labour Union.

A copy of the English translation of the proceedings of the meeting is enclosed.

Printed notices have been issued in all the mines announcing an increase in the attendance bonus, half-yearly clothing allowance, grant of leave with pay, and other concessions. The notices issued in the different mines are uniform. A copy of this notice is enclosed.

Kolar.

"Copy"

Camp:Oorgaum.
vkm.2.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, KOLAR DT.

Proceedings of the meeting held at the Rugby Ground, Oorgaum on 5-8-1941 under the auspices of the Labour Union at 6-40 p.m.

A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar presided over the meeting. About 600 of the labourers attended the meeting. Prominent among those that attended the meeting are KuttiKrishna Nair, Narayanasamy, Indraraj, Abraham - the others being labourers of the -- lower class.

At the outset Mr. A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar cried cheers to Mr. P.R.K. Sharma and Mysore Government. After having introduced Kuttikrishna Nair to the audience, he stated that Kuttikrishna Nair will speak a few words and requested the gathering to listen patiently.

Kuttikrishna Nair stated that as per their promise of -- yesterday, he along with Lakshmana Mudaliar and others had met the Superintendent of Nandydroog Mines yesterday at about 2-30 p.m. in the latter's bungalow and represented the grievances of the labourers. He added that the mining Superintendent had assured them that he would consider the matter and would intimat the result of his findings by to-morrow morning by issue of notices to the labourers. Mr. Kuttikrishna Nair continued by adding that the mining Superintendent, like a gentleman, had kept up his word and issued notices accordingly. There was no need to dilate on what the notice contained since they were all in the possession of the facts of the notice. He also informed them that what the Superintendent had given was not enough. They wanted enhacement of wages and added to that they also wanted war-allowances. It does not matter. The Union, he continued will have recognition by about a month, and the Union could represent the complete body of all the labourers with greater amount of strength. He read out the notice issued by the Nandydroog mine Superintendent. Some of the coolies got up and said that what they asked, he has not given. Some of the other coolies shouted asking the speaker to sit down. The speaker continued by appealing them to keep contented for a while when the labour Union will come into power. He added that it was not worth-

while

worth-while at present to create any disturbance since it would amount only a cry in the wilderness but after the establishment of the Labour Union, they will be made to yield down. He continued by saying that patience as the mother of all virtues and appealed the audience not to precipitate matters. He concluded by saying that all the labourers should join the Union.

INDRARAJ of Mysore mine next spoke.

He stated what they wanted, the Superintendent had not given. They had asked one thing and the Superintendent had given another thing. He requested them not to get dissatisfied and precipitate matters. Union will be established by about a month. Then the Mining authorities will have to bow down to the Union. The words of the Union will have greater weight. They will have to listen to the authority of the Union. He continued by adding that what the mining Superintendent had given was something like a deaf ~~child~~ child. If deaf child is born at the first instance to a newly married couple, they will have to bring him up and cannot expose the child in the wilderness. What the Superintendent has given us now is something like a deaf child which has also to be bread up instead of killing it. Soon after the establishment of the Labour Union, he continued, that the deaf child would be sent to Deaf and Dumb School, educated and he will be much better than any other ordinary child. He was applauded. He also informed them that they had sent information to Mr. Sharma about the morning strike and subsequent resumption of work by the labourers in the afternoon and continued that they had also sent a notice to Mr. Sharma. We will wait for his reply and then we will know whether we were in the wrong or right. He exhorted the audience to join the league and strengthen the association.

Mr. ~~Lakxxx~~ Lakshmana Mudaliar next spoke. He began by congratulating them for having resumed work in the afternoon as per their request. He continued that Sharma would be mightily pleased to hear that they had resumed work. I am aware, he added, that what the Superintendent had given was not enough and would not meet both ends. Even then, he continued, that

that they should not create any disturbances. He requested them to patiently wait till the recognition of the Labour Union. He further stated that he was fondly anticipating Mr. Mathan's report which would be welcomed by every labourer and they were all looking forward for that report. He continued by saying (1) that all the mine-out men should come back and be restored to their original jobs, (2) That the Government has passed unjustifiable orders against K.C. Phillips who is one of the victims of an honest organisation and who is himself innocent and hard-working The notices against K.C. Phillips and Dr. Subramanyam should be cancelled.

He appealed them to pay their 2 annas subscriptions to the Union through the members of their respective lines. He continued that every pie that was subscribed by a labourer was spen on the upliftment and betterment of the poor labourers and -- challenged them that the Union members who were collecting subscriptions would be ready at any time to lay bare the accounts and would satisfy them that the collections were spent only for the good of the labourers. He stated that an under-ground cooly was paid Rs.6-0-0 per year as dress allowance. He said that every labourer was (ಕೆಲಸಗಾರ) and every workman irrespective whether he worked in the underground, surface, Mill or any place should be given the dress allowance of Rs.6-0-0 per year.

Narayanaswamy of Mysore Mine reiterated what the previous speakers spoke and not much of fresh interest to report. One of the audience wanted the next date of the meeting when Lakshmana Mudaliar replied that he would get the date announced by tom-tom soon.

The meeting terminated at 8 p.m. with cheers to Mysore Government, Sri A.V. Ramanathan, P.R.K.Sharma, V.V. Giri, K.C. Phillips, Mr. Matthan, Lakshmana Mudaliar and to the Labour Union.

"Copy"

Camp:Oorgaum.
7th Aug. 1941.
vkm.2.

S. Narayana 7/8

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, KOLAR DISTRICT.

107

Nundydroog Mines, Limited.

NOTICE.

1. Labour Associations.

The Company heartily approves of the principle that Labour Associations should be allowed and be given recognition.

2. Attendance Bonus.

As from the 1st of August 1941 the monthly rates of the present Attendance Bonus Scale will be increased by Re. 1/.

3. Holidays with Pay.

Employees who have completed 2 years regular service with the Company will be entitled to annual holidays with pay the period of the holiday being based on the number of days they have worked during the previous 12 months, and in this connection a scheme in detail is now being prepared.

4. Leave without Pay.

Employees of approved service will on application, and at the discretion of the Superintendent, be granted leave without pay to attend to their private affairs.

5. Cash Allowance for Underground Outfit.

Employees working underground who provide themselves with the standard equipment will be entitled to receive the sum of Rs. 3/- at the end of every 6 months of regular service. This will be retrospective as from the 1st March 1941.

6. Service Gratuity.

Service Gratuity will be paid to workmen leaving the Company's service as a result of permanent disability compensated under the Workmen's Compensation Act, as from 1st August 1941.

7. Medical Reports.

When a workman is discharged on account of physical unfitness a copy of the medical report will be furnished to him if applied for.

8. Housing.

The construction of additional housing is being undertaken in order to increase living accommodation in the Lines.

OORGAUM,
5th August, 1941.

R. G. K. MORRISON,
Superintendent.

105

194

நந்திதுருக் மைன்ஸ், லிமிடெட்.

விளம்பரம்.

1. தொழிலாளர் சங்கங்கள்.

தொழிலாளர் சங்கங்களை ஏற்படுத்தும் முறையைப்பற்றியும் அவற்றை அங்கீகாரம் செய்வதைப்பற்றியும் கம்பெனியார் மனப்பூர்வமாக ஒத்துக் கொள்ளுகிறார்கள்.

2. கம்பெனி (அட்டேன்டன்ஸ்) போனஸ்.

1941-ம் ஆண்டு ஆகஸ்ட்-மீ 1-உ முதல் தற்சமயம் வழங்கிவரும் கம்பெனி போனஸ் திட்டத்தை 1 ரூபாய் வீதம் உயர்த்தப்படும்.

3. சம்பளத்துடன் விடுமுறை நாட்கள்.

கம்பெனியில் ஒழுங்காக 2 வருஷங்கள் வேலை செய்திருக்கும் தொழிலாளர்கள் வருஷாந்திர விடுமுறை நாட்கள் சம்பளத்துடன் கிடைப்பதற்கு உரிமையுள்ளவர்களாவார்கள். இவ்விடுமுறை நாட்கள் எவ்வளவு என்பது கடந்த 12 மாதங்களில் எவ்வளவு நாட்கள் வேலை செய்திருக்கிறார்களோ அதை பொருத்திருக்கும். இதைப்பற்றி ஒரு விரிவான திட்டம் தயாரிக்கப்படுகிறது.

4. சம்பளமில்லாமல் விடுமுறை.

ஒப்புக்கொள்ளக் கூடிய காலம் வேலை செய்த தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு தங்கள் சொந்த அலுவல்களை கவனிப்பதற்கு விடுமுறை வேண்டியிருந்தால் சூப்பிரென்டென்டென்டுக்கு மனு செய்துக்கொண்டால் அவரிஷ்ட பிரகாரம் சம்பளமில்லாமல் ரஜா கொடுக்கப்படும்.

5. கெணி உடுப்புக்காக கொடுக்கப்படும் பண உதவி.

கெணி வேலை செய்யும் தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு விதிப் பிரகாரம் உபயோகிக்க வேண்டிய உடுப்புகளுக்காக ஒழுங்காக வேலை செய்திருக்கும் ஒவ்வொருவருக்கும் ரூபாய் 3/- ஒவ்வொரு ஆறுமாத முடிவிலும் கொடுக்கப்படும். இது 1941-ம் ஆண்டு மார்ச்-மீ 1-உ யிலிருந்து அமுலுக்குக் கொண்டு வரப்படும்.

6. ஸர்விஸ் பணம்.

தொழிலாளர்கள் நஷ்ட ஈடு சட்டப் பிரகாரம் (Workmen's Compensation Act) சாசுவதமாக வேலை செய்ய சக்தியற்றவர்களென்று தீர்மானிக்கப்பட்டு நஷ்ட ஈடு பெற்றுக் கொண்டு கம்பெனி வேலையிலிருந்து நீக்கப்பட்டால் அவர்களுக்கும் ஸர்விஸ் பணம் கொடுக்கப்படும். இது 1941-ம் ஆண்டு ஆகஸ்ட்-மீ 1-உ யிலிருந்து அமுலுக்குக் கொண்டு வரப்படும்.

7. வைத்திய ரிப்போர்ட்டுகள்.

ஒரு தொழிலாளி வேலைக்கு லாயக்கற்றவனென்று நீக்கப்படும்பொழுது அத்தொழிலாளி மனு செய்துக் கொண்டால் டாக்டர் ரிப்போர்ட்டின் காப்பி ஒன்று கொடுக்கப்படும்.

8. வீடுகள்.

லேன்களில் வீடு வசதிகளை அதிகப் படுத்துவதற்காக ஜாஸ்தி வீடுகளைக்கட்டும் திட்டம் கையாளப்படுகிறது.

ஊர்காம்,
ஆகஸ்டு 5, 1941.

ஆர். ஜி. கே. மாரீஸன்,
சூப்பிரென்டென்டென்ட்.

106

ne Press.

D. O. No. 5/41-42/SB.
Encls. 2 Reports.

SECRET.

354 / 195

E. G. B. PEEL, Esq., C.I.E.,
Inspector-General of Police
in Mysore.

BANGALORE

August 8, 1941.

DEWAN'S OFFICE
No. 117

OFFICE OF THE
MINISTER FOR LAW
AUG 9 1941
No. 1343

My dear Kesavaiengar,

I enclose for the information of Government copies of reports No.C.C. 20/40-41 dated 6th and 7th August 1941, received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, regarding the proceedings of public meetings held in K.G.F.

Yours
Eric Peel

Law minister + Dewan

Rajasevaprasakta
B. T. Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to the Govt. of
H.H. the Maharaja of Mysore,
Bangalore.

N. PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl: Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 7th August 1941.

CC.20/41-42.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my report of yesterday I beg to state that another meeting was held by the labourers at the maidan near the Picket line yesterday at 6.15 p.m. A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar presided and about 600 labourers attended. One Maistri of Champion Reef mine sang a song warning the labourers to be careful and to follow the advice of Sri Sharma and to strengthen the Union. Rayappan - a Teacher of St. Mary's School, Champion Reef spoke about the object of establishing the Union for the K.G.F. labourers and warned against the anti-propoganda. He also advised the coolies to be economical and not to spend money for drinking. Govindarajalu of Oorgaum then spoke what transpired between Mr. Morrison and Mr. A.V. Ramanathan when they had been to Bangalore and said that as a result of their talk the notices have been issued by the mining authorities and that they should patiently wait and obtain more through their Union. Mahimanathan, Secretary of the Champion Reef Labour Committee who next spoke advised the coolies not to do anything independent of the Union, but to represent their grievances to the Union which will fight for their cause. Perumal of Champion Reef then spoke about the contractors discouraging the leaders of the labourers and said that they will now understand the strength of the labourers Finally Lakshmana Mudaliar emphasised the need of the Union and exhorted the labourers to pay subscriptions regularly. He also advised them not to resort to strike without the knowledge of the Sangham. The meeting terminated at 8.15 p.m.

p.t.o.

198

M. PUTTARAMGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.
Spl: Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 7th August 1941.

CC.20/41-42.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my report of yesterday, I beg to state that another meeting was held by the labourers at the maidan near the Picket line yesterday at 6.15 p.m. A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar presided and about 600 labourers attended. One Laisfri of Champion Reef mine sang a song warning the labourers to be careful and to follow the advice of Sri Sharma and to strengthen the Union. Rayappan - a Teacher of St. Mary's School, Champion Reef spoke about the object of establishing the Union for the K.G.F. labourers and warned against the anti-propoganda. He also advised the coolies to be economical and not to spend money for drinking. Govindarajulu of Coregum then spoke what transpired between Mr. Morrison and Mr. A.V. Ramanathan when they had been to Bangalore and said that as a result of their talk the notices have been issued by the mining authorities and that they should patiently wait and obtain more through their Union. Mahimanathan, Secretary of the Champion Reef Labour Committee who next spoke advised the coolies not to do anything independent of the Union but to represent their grievances to the Union which will fight for their cause. Perumal of Champion Reef then spoke about the contractors discouraging the leaders of the labourers and said that they will now understand the strength of the labourers. Finally Lakshmana Mudaliar emphasised the need of the Union and exhorted the labourers to pay subscriptions regularly. He also advised them not to resort to strike without the knowledge of the Sangham. The meeting terminated at 8.15 p.m.

p.t.o.

A copy of the English Translation of the proceedings is enclosed.

Yours sincerely,

SD/- N. PUTTARANGASWAMY,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,(Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

NR/-

Copies in duplicate, forwarded with compliments, to the Superintendent of Police, Special Branch in Mysore, Bangalore.

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

A copy of the English Translation of the proceedings is enclosed.

Yours sincerely,

SD/- H. PUTTARAMASWAMY,

MR/- S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,(Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

Copies in duplicate, forwarded with compliments, to the Superintendent of Police, Special Branch in Mysore, Bangalore.

[illegible]

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

Proceedings of the meeting of Champion Reef labourers held at the maidan near 'P' Block, Champion Reef on 6-8-1941 at 6.15 p.m.

***

The meeting was arranged by A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar and it was announced by beat of tom tom. The gathering was about 600 coolies. A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar presided over the meeting. One Rayappan, Teacher, St. Mary's School, Champion Reef, Govindarajalu, Bellman, Oorgaum mine, Mahimanathan and A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar spoke. The speeches were in tamil. One Maistry of Champion Reef mine (name not known) sang a song which meant a warning to the K.G.F. labourers to wake up from their slumbers and understand their difficulties in the undergrounds and follow the advices of V.V. Giri and Sri Sharma and unite together under the labour union.

At the ~~on~~ out set Lakshmana Mudaliar introduced one Rayappan, Teacher of St. Mary's School, Champion Reef who spoke in Tamil as follows : "The labourers have been talking of labour union for the last 1½ months as if it is established. It is a fact that the labour union is given to the K.G.F. labourers, and it is going to be established within a month. Many labourers have not understood the meaning and value of the labour union. It is an organisation of labourers and represents the labourers and it fights for the rights of the labourers. There are many among the 27,000 labourers who may be trying to ~~impede~~ impede the progress of the labour union.. To achieve their ~~this~~ base objects they may even go to the extent of defeating the purposes of the union by anti-propoganda. It is no wonder to find such anti-workers among the 27,000 labourers. This kind of enemies have been illustrated in history and the great epics like Ramayana and Maharabharatha. He requested all the labourers to understand the real meaning of the labour union which is an institution of the labourers themselves who fight for their own betterment and upliftment. He once again

Proceedings of the meeting of Champion Reef labourers held at the maidan near 'P' Block, Champion Reef on 6-8-1941 at 6.15 p.m.

***

The meeting was arranged by A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar and it was announced by beat of tom tom. The gathering was about 600 coolies. A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar presided over the meeting. One Rayappan, Teacher, St. Mary's School, Champion Reef, Govindaraja, Pillaian, Morgan mine, Mahimanthan and A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar spoke. The speeches were in tamil. One Mistry of Champion Reef mine (name not known) sang a song which was a warning to the K.G.F. labourers to wake up from their slumbers and understand their difficulties in the underground and follow the advices of V.V. Giri and Jai Bhim and unite together under the labour union.

At the ~~on~~ set Lakshmana Mudaliar introduced one Rayappan, Teacher of St. Mary's School, Champion Reef who spoke in Tamil as follows : "The labourers have been talking of labour union for the last 1½ months as if it is established. It is a fact that the labour union is given to the K.G.F. labourers, and it is going to be established within month. Many labourers have not understood the meaning and value of the labour union. It is an organisation of labourers and represents the labourers and it fights for the rights of the labourers. There are many among the 27,000 labourers who may be trying to ~~[illegible]~~ the progress of the labour union.. To achieve ~~their~~ base objects they may even go to the extent of defeating the purposes of the union by anti-propaganda. It is no wonder to find such anti-workers among the 27,000 labourers. This kind of enemies have been illustrated in history and the great epics like Ramayana and Mahabharatha. He requested all the labourers to understand the real meaning of the labour union which is an institution of the labourers themselves who fight for their own betterment and upliftment. He once again

warned the labourers not to pay heed to any such anti-propoganda against the labour union and requested them to cooperate and support the union by regular and liberal subscriptions towards the Sangham and said that the subscriptions thus made would be mainly used for their own upliftment. Next he commented upon the labourers regarding their evil habit of drinking. He continued that the conditions of the labourers will not be improved even if the covetted increments in their wages are given. Because the labourers are in the habit of spending away the money they get as an increment, in the Toddy shops. He advised them to educate their children, better their conditions and thus understand the enormous responsibility they have got on their shoulders. The Union is the achievement of of their educated children. And if many more children are educated they will do many more things. The times have been changing and the labourers must also change their views accordingly and mould their mode of life.

Then Lakshmana Mudaliar got up and introduced one boy to the audience who sang a song which depicted the dangers and difficulties of the underground labourers, the efforts made by their leaders in getting the labourers organised in this manner etc. (The song was not mhch appreciated by the audience since the boy failed to sing loudly).

Then Lakshmana Mudaliar introduced Govindarajalu, Bellman, Oorgaum mine who spoke as follows. To start with he said that though the labourers are living in the gold mining area and though they work in the mines and bring gold up from the recesses of the undergrounds yet they do not possess even an atom of gold themselves That is because they are Spend-thrifts. They spend away money on drinks. As such he requested them to follow the advice of Rayappan who spoke just before him.

warned the labourers not to pay heed to any such anti-propaganda against the labour union and requested them to cooperate and support the union by regular and liberal subscriptions towards the Sangham and said that the subscriptions thus made would be mainly used for their own upliftment. Next he co mented upon the labourers regarding their evil habit of drinking. He continued that the conditions of the labourers will not be improved even if the covetted increments in their wages are given. Because the labourers are in the habit of spending away the money they get is an increment, in the Toddy shops. He advised them to educate their children, better their conditions and thus understand the enorm us responsibility they have got on their shoulders. The Union is the achievement of their educated children. And if many more children are educated they will do many more things. The times have been changing and the labourers must also change their views accordingly and mould their mode of life.

Then Lakshmana Mudaliar got up and introduced one boy to the audience who sang song which depicted the dangers and difficulties of the underground labourers, the efforts made by their leaders in getting the labourers organised in this manner etc. (The song was not much appreciated by the audience since the boy failed to sing loudly).

Then Lakshmana Mudaliar introduced Govindarajulu, Bellman, Oorgaum mine who spoke as follows. To start with he said that though the labourers are living in the gold mining area and though they work in the mines and bring gold up from the recesses of the underground yet they do not possess even an atom of gold themselves That is because they are spend-thrifts. They spend away money on drinks. As such he requested them to follow the advice of Rayappan who spoke just before him

He continued that when he and R.G.K. Morrison had been to Bangalore to attend the Legislative Assembly, Rajasevaprasaktha A.V. Ramanathan put one question to Mr. Morrison i.e., he asked him as to what the mining authorities have given the labourers for their long services. A private person or an Officer who has engaged a servant will usually present his servant with some money or some sort of such thing at least on certain occasions. It may be an example in the K.G.F. itself. Mr. Morrison thought over the question for a while and then replied that the labourers are remunerated by way of service gratuity. Then A.V. Ramanathan put another question. "Are the labourers given leave with pay? Are the labourers' dwellings sufficient etc. Mr. Morrison then answered that he would reply him after discussing the matter with the other mining Superintendents. Mr. A.V. Ramanathan asked him the probable time as to when he would reply for which he said that he would soon send the reply etc. And the notice now issued by the mining authorities is the result of their conversation with A.V. Ramanathan. Govindarajaly further stated that he represented his difficulty that he had to answer 27,000 labourers who are anxious to know the recommendations of Sri Mathan and as such he requested A.V. Ramanathan to publish the reports of Mathan early. Sri A.V. Ramanathan promised to do so at an early date. He read the notice issued by the mining authorities to the audience. And then commented that what the mining authorities have given are no doubt insufficient and the labourers are not contented with grants but they should simply take ~~that also~~ what is given and patiently ~~and~~ wait for better things which would be got through the Union.

Govindarajaly lastly said that the labourers

He continued that when he and R.G.K. Morrison had been to Bangalore to attend the legislative Assembly, Rajasavaprasakthi A.V. Ramanathan put one question to Mr. Morrison i.e., he asked him as to what the mining authorities have given the labourers for their long services. A private person or an Officer who has engaged a servant will usually present his servant with some money or some sort of such thing at least on certain occasions. It may be an example in the K.G.F. itself. Mr. Morrison thought over the question for a while and then replied that the labourers are remunerated by way of service gratuity. Then A.V. Ramanathan put another question. "Are the labourers given leave with pay? Are the labourers' dwellings sufficient etc. Mr. Morrison then answered that he would reply him after discussing the matter with the other mining Superintendents. Mr. A.V. Ramanathan asked him the probable time as to when he would reply for which he said that he would soon send the reply etc. And the notice now issued by the mining authorities is the result of their conversation with A.V. Ramanathan. Govindarajalu further stated that he represented his difficulty that he had to answer 27,000 labourers who are anxious to know the recommendations of Sri Mathan and as such he requested A.V. Ramanathan to publish the reports of Mathan early. Sri A.V. Ramanathan promised to do so at an early date. He read the notice issued by the mining authorities to the audience. And then commented that what the mining authorities have given are no doubt insufficient and the labourers are not contented with grants but they should simply take ~~time~~ also patiently ~~and~~ wait for better things which would be got through the Union.

Govindarajalu lastly said that the labourers

should subscribe 2 annas per head and they should give it regularly without fail into the hands of line - committee members, who will give the collections into the hands of their head who will then hand over the same to the General Committee members of each mine. He announced that each line will have 10 committee members and they will have a head over them. The labourers shall understand that these members are prepared to fight for their cause and hence they shall have full faith in them.

Then one Mahimanathan, Secretary to the Champion Reef Committee got up and said that each line has got 10 committee members. They were not newly elected. They had been working hard for the betterment of labourers for the last 9 months. They are the best people suited for their jobs. Anything the labourers want to do should represent it through them who would then bring it to the notice of union. Then the union would take necessary steps in redressing the grievances of the labourers. The labourers are requested not to do anything independent of the union and thus bring in an unpleasant affair not only for their detrement but also to the Industry as a whole. They have got the Union to do everything for them in a constitutional manner.

Then one Perumal of 'I' Block, Champion Reef got up and said that some Contractors, i.e. Mr. Seetharama Naidu of Marikuppam were discouraging the leaders who were agitating to get the labour union and then he requested in a sarcastic manner, that the contractors would now understand the firm unity of the labourers and go by the side of the labourers without any clash with them.

Lastly Lakshmana Mudaliar got up and concluded the meeting by saying that the Union means the unity of the labourers. The labourers can do and undo

113

should subscribe 2 annas per head and they should give it regularly without fail into the hands of line - committee members, who will give the collections into the hands of their head who will then hand over the same to the General Committee members of each mine. He announced that each line will have 10 committee members and they will have a head over them. The labourers shall understand that these members are prepared to fight for their cause and hence they shall have full faith in them.

Then one Lakshmanachari, Secretary to the Champion Reef Committee got up and said that each line has got 10 committee members. They were not newly elected. They had been working hard for the betterment of labourers for the last 9 months. They are the best people suited for their job. Anything the labourers want to do, should represent it through them who would then bring it to the notice of union. Then the union would take necessary steps in redressing the grievances of the labourers. The labourers are requested not to do anything independent of the union and thus bring in an unpleasant affair not only or their betterment but also to the Industry as a whole. They have got the Union to do everything for them in a constitutional manner.

Then one Perumal of 'I' block, Champion Reef got up and said that some Contractors, i.e. Mr. Seethanna Naidu of Karikuppam were discouraging the leaders who were agitating to get the labour union and then he requested in a sarcastic manner, that the contractors would now understand the firm unity of the labourers and go by the side of the labourers without any clash with them.

Lastly Lakshmana Mudaliar got up and concluded the meeting by saying that the Union means the unity of the labourers. The labourers can do and undo

things if they are only united under the banners of the Union. They can even get the section 17 M.M. Act cancelled. The section was adopted for the people and the people were not adopted for the section. If the labourers say in one voice that they do not want the section 17 M.M. Act the Government will immediately respond to the voice of labourers and do the needful. They should be grateful to Sri V.V. Giri, P.R.K. Sharma and A.V. Ramanathan who showed them the way to get the labour union.

He further stated that the labourers are requested to subscribe 2 annas per head without fail and thus strengthen the Sangham. The money given by them will be utilised only for their betterment and not otherwise. The money will be passing to the Sangham, through linecommittees and the general committees and as such there will be no chances for anybody to mis-appropriat the money. The accounts will be shown to anybody and at any time in case anybody wants to check them.

He finally exhorted the labourers to be united, and not to bring in a strike all on a sudden without the knowledge of the Sangham. The Sangham is for them and fights for their betterment. Lastly he announced that there would be a meeting at the Rugby ground, Nandydroog mine on 7-8-41 evening.

The meeting terminated at 8.15 p.m. with cheers to the Mysore Government, Sri V.V. Giri, Sri Sharma, A.V. Ramanathan, K. Mathan, K.C. Phillips, A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar, Sangham and the K.G.F. labourers.

***

" COPY "

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

NR/-

things if they are only united under the banners of the Union. They can even get the section 17 I.M. Act cancelled. The section was adopted for the people and the people were not adopted for the section. If the labourer say in one voice that they do not want the section 17 I.M. Act the Government will immediately respond to the voice of labourers and do the needful. They should be grateful to Sri V.V. Giri, P.R.K. Sharma and M.V. Ramanathan who showed them the way to get the labour union.

He further stated that the labourers are requested to subscribe 2 annas per head without fail and thus strengthen the Sangham. The money given by them will be utilised only for their betterment and not otherwise. The money will be passing to the Sangham through Intercommittees and the General committees and as such there will be no chances for anybody to misappropriate the money. The accounts will be shown to anybody and at any time in case anybody wants to check them.

He finally exhorted the labourers to be united, and not to bring in a strike all on a sudden without the knowledge of the Sangham. The Sangham is for them and fights for their betterment. Lastly he Garu announced that there would be a meeting at the Lady ground, Handyaroog mine on 7-2-41 evening.

The meeting terminated at 8.15 p.m. with cheers to the Mysore Government, Sri V.V. Giri, Sri Sharma, M.V. Ramanathan, K. Mathan, K.C. Philips, A.T. Krishnamurthy, Sangham and the K.G.F. Labourers.

***

" COPY "

Superintendent

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

MR/-

N. PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 6th August 1941.

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my report of yesterday, I beg to state that another meeting was held at the Rughby Ground, Oorgaum yesterday at 6.40 p.m. by the K.G.F. labourers. About 600 labourers had collected and A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar presided. The President cried cheers to Mr. P.R.K. Sharma and the Mysore Government and introduced Kuttikrishna Nair to the audience. The latter said that as per their promise they met the Superintendent of the Nandydroog mine and represented their grievances to him and that as a result of their interview the Superintendent has issued printed notices showing some concessions in the matter of recognition of Labour Associations, increase of attendence, bonus etc. He further added that it is true that the Superintendent did not give them what they wanted and had asked for ~~in~~ i.e. increase of wages and war-allowances but that there is their Union to settle the question and no amount of individual requests or threats would be of any avail. He concluded by saying that they should all be patient and at the same time strengthen the Sangham.

Indraraj next spoke likewise and exhorted the audience to join the League and strengthen the association. The next speaker Lakshmana Mudaliar said that he is glad that the coolies resumed work as per their advice, and that to get more facilities they should not create disturbances but wait patiently for the recognition of the Union. He further added that they are all anxiously waiting for the publication of Sri Mathan's report, that the notices issued against

212

M. PUTTARAMGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 6th August 1941.

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of report of yesterday, I beg to state that another meeting was held at the Rugby Ground, Corgaum yesterday at 6.40 p.m. by the K.G.F. labourers. About 600 labourers had collected and A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar presided. The President cried cheers to Mr. P.R.K. Sharma and the Mysore Government and introduced Kutti-Krishna Nair to the audience. The latter said that as per their promise they met the Superintendent of the Mandyaroog mine and represented their grievances to him and that as a result of their interview the Superintendent has issued printed notices showing some concessions in the matter of recognition of Labour Associations, increase of attendance, bonus etc. He further added that it is true that the Superintendent did not give them what they wanted and had asked for in increase of wages and war-allowances but that there is their Union to settle the question and no amount of individual requests or threats would be of any avail. He concluded by saying that they should all be patient and at the same time strengthen the Sangham.

Indrajj next spoke likewise and exhorted the audience to join the league and strengthen the association. The next speaker Lakshmana Mudaliar said that he is glad that the coolies resumed work as per their advice, and that to get more facilities they should not create disturbances but wait patiently for the recognition of the Union. He further added that they are all anxiously waiting for the publication of Sri Mathan's report, that the notices issued against

K.C. Phillips, Dr. Subramanyam should be cancelled, and that the mine-out labourers should get back their jobs here. He finally appealed to the coolies to pay subscriptions to the Union which is meant for the up-liftment of the poor labourers. Narayanaswamy/who next spoke reiterated the same thing.

The meeting terminated at 8 p.m. with three cheers to Mysore Government, Messrs. A.V. Ramanathan P.R.K. Sharma, V.V. Giri, K.C. Phillips, Lakshmana Mudaliar and the Labour Union.

A copy of the English translation of the proceedings of the meeting is enclosed.

Printed notices have been issued in all the mines announcing an increase in the attendance bonus, half yearly clothing allowance, grant of leave with pay, and other concessions. The notices issued in the different mines are uniform. A copy of this notice is enclosed.

Yours sincerely,

SD/- N. PUTTARANGASWAMY,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,(HONs),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

NR/-

Copies in duplicate forwarded, with compliments, to the Superintendent of Police, Special Branch in Mysore, Bangalore.

6.8

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

K.C. Phillips, Dr. Subramanyam should be cancelled, and that the mine-out labourers should get back their jobs here. He finally appealed to the coolies to pay subscriptions to the Union which is meant for the uplifitment of the poor labourers. Narayanaswamy who next spoke reiterated the same thing.

The meeting terminated at 8 p.m. with three cheers to Mysore Government, Messrs. A.V. Ramanathan P.R.K. Sharma, V.V. Giri, K.C. Phillips, Lakshmana Mudaliar and the Labour Union.

A copy of the English translation of the proceedings of the meeting is enclosed.

Printed notices have been issued in all the mines announcing an increase in the attendance bonus, half yearly clothing allowance, grant of leave with pay, and other concessions. The notices issued in the different mines are uniform. A copy of this notice is enclosed.

Yours sincerely,

SD/- N. PUTTARAMASWAMY,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A., (HONs),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

Copies in duplicate forwarded, with compliments to the Superintendent of Police, Special Branch in Mysore, Bangalore.

Confidential
L.S.

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

Proceedings of the meeting held at the Rugby Ground Oorgaum on 5-8-41 under the auspices of the Labour Union at 6-30 p.m..

***

A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar presided over the meeting. About 600 of the labourers attended the meeting. Prominent among those that attended the meeting are Kuttikrishna Nair, Narayanaswamy, Indraraj, Abraham - the others being labourers of the lower class.

At the outset Mr. A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar cried cheers to Mr. P.R.K. Sharma and Mysore Government. After having introduced Kuttikrishna Nair to the audience, he stated that Kuttikrishna Nair will speak a few words and requested the gathering to listen patiently.

Kuttikrishna Nair stated that as per their promise of yesterday, he along with Lakshmana Mudaliar and others had met the Superintendent of Nandydroog mines yesterday at about 2-30 p.m. in the latter's Bungalow and represented the grievances of the labourers. He added that the mining Superintendent had assured them that he would consider the matter and would intimate the result of his findings by to-morrow morning by issual of notices to the labourers. Mr. Kuttikrishna Nair continued by adding that the mining Superintendent, like a gentleman, had kept hp his word and issued notices accordingly. There was no need to dilate on what the notice contained since they were all in the possession of the facts of the notice. He also informed them that what the Superintendent had given was not enough. They wanted enhancement of wages and adding to that they also wanted war-allowance. It does not matter. The Union, he continued, will have recognition by about a month, and the Union could represent the complete body of all the labourers with greater amount of strenth. He read out the notice issued by the Nandydroog mine Superint ndent. Some of the coolies got up and said that what we asked, he has not given. Some of the other coolies shouted asking

Proceedings of the meeting held at the Rugby Green Corgum on 8-8-41 under the auspices of the Labour Union at 6-30 p.m..

***

A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar presided over the meeting. About 600 of the labourers attended the meeting. Prominent among those that attended the meeting are Kuttikrishna Nair, Narayanaswamy, Indrara, Abraham - the others being labourers of the lower class.

At the outset Mr. A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar cried cheers to Mr. P.R.X. Sharma and Mysore Government. After having introduced Kuttikrishna Nair to the audience, he stated that Kuttikrishna Nair will speak a few words and requested the gathering to listen patiently.

Kuttikrishna Nair stated that as per their promise of yesterday, he along with Lakshmana Mudaliar and others had met the Superintendent of Nandydroog mines yesterday at about 2-30 p.m. in the latter's Bungalow and represented the grievances of the labourers. He added that the mining Superintendent had assured them that he would consider the matter and would intimate the result of his findings by to-morrow morning by issual of notices to the labourers. Mr. Kuttikrishna Nair continued by adding that the mining Superintendent, like a gentleman, had kept up his word and issued notices accordingly. There was no need to dilate on what the notice contained since they were all in the possession of the facts of the notice. He also informed them that what the Superintendent had given was not enough. They wanted enhancement of wages and adding to that they also wanted war-allowance. It does not matter. The Union, he continued, will have recognition by about a month, and the Union could represent the complete body of all the labourers with greater amount of strength. He read out the notice issued by the Nandydroog mine Superintendent. Some of the coolies got up and said that what we asked, he has not given. Some of the other coolies shouted asking

eaker to sit down. The speaker continued by appealing them to keep contented for a while when the Labour Union will come into power. He added that it was not worth-while at present to create any disturbance since it would amount only a cry in the wilderness but after the establishment of the Labour Union, they will be made to yield down. He continued by saying that patience was the mother of all virtues and appealed the audience not to precipitate matters. He concluded by saying that all the labourers should join the Union.

INDRARAJ of Mysore mine next spoke.

He stated that what they wanted, the Superintendent had not given. They had asked one thing and the Superintendent had given another thing. He requested them not to get dis-satisfied and precipitate matters. Union will be established by about a month. Then the mining authorities will have to bow down to the Union. The words of the Union will have greater weight. They will have to listen to the authority of the Union. He continued by adding that what the mining Superintendent had given was something like a deaf child. If deaf child is born at the first instance to a newly married couple, they will have to bring him up and cannot expose the child in the wilderness. What the Superintendent has given us now is something like a deaf child which has also to be bread up instead of killing it. Soon after the establishment of the Labour Union, he continued, that the deaf child would be sent to deaf & dumb School educated and he will be much better than any other ordinary child. He was applauded. He also informed them that they had sent information to Mr. Sharma about the morning strike and subsequent resumal of work by the labourers in the afternoon and continued that they had also sent a notice to Mr. Sharma. We

118

the speaker to sit down. The speaker continued by appealing them to keep contented for a while when the Labour Union will come into power. He added that it was not worth-while at present to create any disturbance since it would amount only a cry in the wilderness but after the establishment of the Labour Union, they will be made to yield down. He continued by saying that patience as the mother of all virtues and appealed the audience not to precipitate matters. He concluded by saying that all the labourers should join the Union.

IMPERIAL of Mysore mine next spoke.

He stated that that they wanted, the Superintendent had not given. They had asked one thing and the Superintendent had given another thing. He requested them not to get dis-satisfied and precipitate matters. Union will be established by about a month. Then the mining authorities will have to bow down to the Union. The words of the Union will have greater weight. They will have to listen to the authority of the Union. He continued by saying that what the mining Superintendent had given was something like a deaf child. If deaf child is born at the first instance to a newly married couple, they will have to bring him up and cannot expose the child in the wilderness. What the Superintendent has given us now is something like a deaf child which has also to be bread up instead of killing it. Soon after the establishment of the Labour Union, he continued, that the deaf child would be sent to dumb school, educated and he will be much better than any other ordinary child. He was applauded. He also informed them that they had sent information to Mr. Sharma about the morning strike and subsequent resumal of work by the labourers in the afternoon and continued that they had also sent a notice to Mr. Sharma. He

We will wait for his reply and then we will know whether we were in the wrong or right. He exhorted the audience to join the league and strengthen the association.

Mr. Lakshmana Mudaliar next spoke. He began by congratulating them for having resumed work in the afternoon as per their request. He continued that Sharma would be mightily pleased to hear that they had resumed work. I am aware, he added, that what the Superintendent had given was not enough and would not meet both ends. Even then, he continued, that they should not create any disturbances. He requested them to patiently wait till the recognition of the Labour Union. He further stated that he was fondly anticipating Mr. Mathan's report which would be welcomed by every labourers and they were all looking forward for that report. He continued by saying (1) That all the mine-out men should come back and restored to their original jobs, (2) That the Government has passed unjustifiable orders against K.C. Phillips who is one of the victims of an honest organisation and who is himself innocent and hard-working. The notices against K.C. Phillips and Dr. Subramanyam should be cancelled.

He appealed them to pay their 2 annas subscriptions to the Union through the members of their respective lines. He continued that every pie that was subscribed by a labourer was spent on the upliftment and betterment of the poor labourers and challenged them that the Union members who were collecting subscriptions would be ready at any time to lay bare the accounts and would satisfy them that the collections were spent only for the good of the labourers. He stated that an underground coolie was paid Rs 6-0-0 per year as dress allowance. He said that every labourer was (illegible) and every workmen irrespective whether he worked in the underground Surface, Mill or any place should be given the dress

We will wait for his reply and then we will know whether we were in the wrong or right. He exhorted the audience to join the league and strengthen the association.

Mr. Lakshmana Mudaliar next spoke. He began by congratulating them for having resumed work in the afternoon as per their request. He continued that Sharma would be mightily pleased to hear that they had resumed work. I am aware, he added, that what the Superintendent had given was not enough and would not meet both ends. Even then, he continued, that they should not create any disturbances. He requested them to patiently wait till the recognition of the Labour Union. He further stated that he was fondly anticipating Mr. Mathan's report which would be welcomed by every labourers and they were all looking forward that report . He continued by saying (1) That all the mine-out men should come back and restored to their original jobs, (2) That the Government has passed unjustifiable orders against K.C. Philipps who is one of the victims of an honest organisation and who is himself innocent and hard-working. The notices against K.C. Philipps and Dr. Subramanyam should be cancelled.

He appealed them to pay their 2 annas subscriptions to the Union through the members of their respective lines. He continued that every pie that was subscribed labourer was spent on the upliftment and betterment of the poor labourers and challenged them that the Union members who were collecting subscriptions would be ready at any time to lay bare the accounts and would satisfy them that the collections were spent only for the good of the labourers. He stated that an underground was paid 6-0-0 per year as dress allowance. He said that every labourer was (entitled) and every workman irrespective whether he worked in the under-ground surface, Mill or any place should be given the dress

allowance of Rs.6-0-0 per year.

Narayanaswamy of Mysore mine reiterated what the previous speakers spoke and not much of fresh interest to report. One of the audience wanted the next date of the meeting when Lakshmana Mudaliar replied that he would get the date announced by tom tom

The meeting terminated at 8 p.m. with cheers to Mysore Government, Sri A.V. Ramanathan, P.R.K. Sharma V.V. Giri, K.C. Phillips, Mr. Mathana, Laxmana Mudaliar and to the Labour Union.

***

" COPY "

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

NR/-

allowance of Re.6-0-0 per year.

Narayanaswamy of Mysore mine reiterated what the previous speakers spoke and not much of fresh interest to report. One of the audience wanted the next date of the meeting when Lakshmana Mudaliar replied that he would get the date announced by tom tom

The meeting terminated at 8 p.m. with cheers to Mysore Government, Sri A.V. Ramanathan, P.R.A. Sharma V.V. Giri, K.C. Philips, Mr. Mathana, Lexmana Mudaliar and to the Labour Union.

***

" COPY "

Supl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

NOTICE.

1. Labour Associations.

The Company heartily approves of the principle that Labour Associations should be allowed and be given recognition.

2. Attendance Bonus.

As from the 1st of August 1941 the monthly rates of the present Attendance Bonus Scale will be increased by Re. 1/.

3. Holidays with Pay.

Employees who have completed 2 years regular service with the Company will be entitled to annual holidays with pay the period of the holiday being based on the number of days they have worked during the previous 12 months, and in this connection a scheme in detail is now being prepared.

4. Leave without Pay.

Employees of approved service will on application, and at the discretion of the Superintendent, be granted leave without pay to attend to their private affairs.

5. Cash Allowance for Underground Outfit.

Employees working underground who provide themselves with the standard equipment will be entitled to receive the sum of Rs. 3/- at the end of every 6 months of regular service. This will be retrospective as from the 1st March 1941.

6. Service Gratuity.

Service Gratuity will be paid to workmen leaving the Company's service as a result of permanent disability compensated under the Workmen's Compensation Act, as from 1st August 1941.

7. Medical Reports.

When a workman is discharged on account of physical unfitness a copy of the medical report will be furnished to him if applied for.

8. Housing.

The construction of additional housing is being undertaken in order to increase living accommodation in the Lines.

OORGAUM,

5th August, 1941.

விளம்பரம்.

1. தொழிலாளர் சங்கங்கள்.

தொழிலாளர் சங்கங்களை ஏற்படுத்தும் முறையைப்பற்றியும் அவற்றை அங்கீகாரம் செய்வதைப்பற்றியும் கம்பெனியார் மனப்பூர்வமாக ஒத்துக் கொள்ளுகிறார்கள்.

2. கம்பெனி (அட்டென்டன்ஸ்) போனஸ்.

1941-ம் ஷு ஆகஸ்ட்-மீ 1-உ முதல் தற்சமயம் வழங்கிவரும் கம்பெனி போனஸ் திட்டத்தை 1 ரூபாய் வீதம் உயர்த்தப்படும்.

3. சம்பளத்துடன் விடுமுறை நாட்கள்.

கம்பெனியில் ஒழுங்காக 2 வருஷங்கள் வேலை செய்திருக்கும் தொழிலாளர்கள் வருஷாந்திர விடுமுறை நாட்கள் சம்பளத்துடன் கிடைப்பதற்கு உரிமையுள்ளவர்களாவார்கள். இவ்விடுமுறை நாட்கள் எவ்வளவு என்பது கடந்த 12 மாதங்களில் எவ்வளவு நாட்கள் வேலை செய்திருக்கிறார்களோ அதை பொருத்திருக்கும். இதைப்பற்றி ஒரு விரிவான திட்டம் தயாரிக்கப்படுகிறது.

4. சம்பளமில்லாமல் விடுமுறை.

ஒப்புக்கொள்ளக் கூடிய காலம் வேலை செய்த தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு தங்கள் சொந்த அலுவல்களை கவனிப்பதற்கு விடுமுறை வேண்டியிருந்தால் சூப்பிரென்டென்டென்டுக்கு மனு செய்துக்கொண்டால் அவரிஷ்ட பிரகாரம் சம்பளமில்லாமல் ரஜா கொடுக்கப்படும்.

5. கெணி உடுப்புக்காக கொடுக்கப்படும் பண உதவி.

கெணி வேலை செய்யும் தொழிலாளர்களுக்கு விதிப் பிரகாரம் உபயோகிக்க வேண்டிய உடுப்புகளுக்காக ஒழுங்காக வேலை செய்திருக்கும் ஒவ்வொருவருக்கும் ரூபாய் 3/- ஒவ்வொரு ஆறுமாத முடிவிலும கொடுக்கப்படும். இது 1941-ம் ஷு மார்ச்-மீ 1-உ யிலிருந்து அமுலுக்குக் கொண்டு வரப்படும்.

6. ஸர்விஸ் பணம்.

தொழிலாளர்கள் நஷ்ட ஈடு சட்டப் பிரகாரம் (Workmen's Compensation Act) சாசுவதமாக வேலை செய்ய சக்தியற்றவர்களென்று தீர்மானிக்கப்பட்டு நஷ்ட ஈடு பெற்றுக் கொண்டு கம்பெனி வேலையிலிருந்து நீக்கப்பட்டால் அவர்களுக்கும் ஸர்விஸ் பணம் கொடுக்கப்படும். இது 1941-ம ஷு ஆகஸ்ட்-மீ 1-உ யிலிருந்து அமுலுக்குக் கொண்டு வரப்படும்.

7. வைத்திய ரிப்போர்ட்டுகள்.

ஒரு தொழிலாளி வேலைக்கு லாயக்கற்றவனென்று நீக்கப்படும்பொழுது அத்தொழிலாளி மனு செய்துக் கொண்டால் டாக்டர் ரிப்போர்ட்டின் காப்பி ஒன்று கொடுக்கப்படும்.

8. வீடுகள்.

லைன்களில் வீடு வசதிகளை அதிகப் படுத்துவதற்காக ஜாஸ்தி வீடுகளைக்கட்டும் திட்டம் கையாளப்படுகிறது.

ஊர்காம்,
ஆகஸ்டு 5, 1941.

225 418/C.R.

No.C.C.27/41-42. Office of the Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.
Encls. Two. Dated, Camp:Oorgaum the 9th August, 1941.

From.

S. Narayana Rao, Esq., M.A.(Hons.).,
Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

To

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesaviengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to Government of
Mysore, B a n g a l o r e.

C.B.
Copy from the I.G.P. has been sent to Home K.
11/8

Sir,

In continuation of my letter of even number dated the 7th instant, regarding the labour situation in K.G.F., I have the honour to forward herewith copy of D.O. letter No.C.C.20 40-41, dated 7th August 1941, received from the Special Superintendent of Police, K.G.F. together with a copy of the -- proceedings, for information.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

S. Narayana Rao

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
KOLAR DISTRICT.

123

D.O.No.C.C.20/41-42, dated 7th August 1941, from the Special Superintendent of Police, K.G.F. to the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

In continuation of my report of yesterday, I beg to state that another meeting was held by the labourers at the Maidan near the Picket line yesterday at 6-15 p.m. A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar presided and about 600 labourers attended. One Maistri of Champion Reef Mine sang a song warning the labourers to be careful and to follow the advice of Sri Sharma and to strengthen the Union. Rayappan - a teacher of St. Mary's School, Champion Reef spoke about the object of establishing the Union for the K.G.F. labourers and warned against the anti-propaganda. He also advised the coolies to be economical and not to spend money for drinking. Govindarajalu of -- Oorgaum then spoke what transpired between Mr. Morrison and Mr. A.V. Ramanathan when they had been to Bangalore and said that as a result of their talk the notices have been issued by the mining authorities and that they should patiently wait and obtain more through their union. Mahimanathan, Secretary of the Champion Reef Labour Committee who next spoke, advised the coolies not to do anything independent of the Union, but to represent their grievances to the Union which will fight for their cause. Perumal of Champion Reef then spoke about the contractors discouraging the leaders of the labourers and said that they will not understand the strength of the labourers. Finally Lakshmana Mudaliar emphasised the need of the Union and exhorted the labourers to pay subscriptions regularly. He also advised them not to resort to strike without the knowledge of the Sangham. The meeting terminated at 8-15 p.m.

A copy of the English translation of the proceedings is enclosed.

Camp: Oorgaum.
9th Aug. 1941.

"Copy"

S. Narayanaswamy 9/8

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, KOLAR DISTRICT.

114

Proceedings of the meeting of Champion Reef labourers held at the maidan near 'P' Block, Champion Reef on 6-8-41 at 6-15 p.m.

The meeting was arranged by A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar and it was announced by beat of tom-tom. The gathering was about 600 coolies. A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar presided over the meeting. One Rayappam, Teacher, St. Mary's School, Champion Reef, Govindarajalu, Bellman, Oorgaum Mine, Mahimanathan and A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar spoke. The speeches were in tamil. One Maistry of Champion Reef Mine (name not known) sang a song which meant a warning to the K.G.F. -- labourers to wake up from their slumbers and understand their difficulties in the undergrounds and follow the advices of V.V. Giri and Sri Sharma and unite together under the Labour Union.

At the out set Lakshmana Mudaliar introduced one Rayappan Teacher of St. Mary's School, Champion Reef who spoke in -- Tamil as follows: "The labourers have been talking of Labour Union for the last 1½ months as if it is established. It is a fact that the labour Union is given to the K.G.F. labourers, and it is going to be established within a month. Many labourers have not understood the meaning and value of the labour Union. It is an organisation of labourers and represents the labourers and it fights for the rights of the labourers. There are many among the 27,000 labourers who may be trying to impede the progress of the labour Union. To achieve their base objects they may even go to the extent of defeating the purposes of the Union by anti-propaganda. It is no wonder to find such anti-workers among the 27,000 -- labourers. This kind of enemies have been illustrated in history and the great epics like Ramayana and Mahabharatha. He requested all the labourers to understand the real meaning of the labour Union which is an institution of the labourers themselves who fight for their own betterment and upliftment. He once again warned the labourers not to pay heed to any such anti-propaganda against the labour union and requested them

to

23.0

to co-operate and support the union by regular and liberal subscriptions towards the Sangham and said that the subscriptions thus made would be mainly used for their own upliftment. Next he commented upon the labourers regarding their evil habit of drinking. He continued that the conditions of the labourers will not be improved even if the covetted increments in their wages are given. Because the labourers are in the habit of spending away the money they get as an increment, in the toddy shops. He advised them to educate their children, better their conditions and thus understand the enormous responsibility they have got on their shoulders. The Union is the achievement of their educated children. And if many more children are deucated they will do many more things. The times have been changing and the labourers must also change their views accordingly and mould their mode of life.

Then Lakshmana Mudaliar got up and introduced one boy to the audience who sang a song which depicted the dangers and difficulties of the underground labourers, the efforts made by their leaders in getting the labourers organised in this manner etc. (The song was not much appreciated by the audience since the boy failed to sing loudly.).

Then Lakshmana Mudaliar introduced Govindarajalu, Bellman, Oorgaum mine who spoke as follows. To start with he said that though the labourers are living in the gold mining area and though they work in the mines and bring gold up from the recesses of the undergrounds yet they do not possess even an atom of gold themselves. That is because they are spendthrifts. They spend away money on drinks. As such he requested them to follow the advice of Rayappan who spoke just before him.

He continued that when he and R.G.K. Morrison had been to Bangalore to attend the Legislative Assembly, Rajasevaprasakta A.V.Ramanathan put one question to Mr. Morrison, i.e., he asked him as to what the mining authorities have given the labourers for their long services. A private

private or an officer who has engaged a servant will usually present his servant with some money or some sort of such thin at least on certain occasions. It may be an example in the K.G.F. itself. Mr. Morrison thought over the question for a while and then replied that the labourers are remunerated by way of service gratuity. Then A.V.Ramanatham put another ~~anx~~ question. "Are the labourers given leave with pay? Are the labourers' dwellings sufficient etc. Mr. Morrison then answered that he would reply him after discussing the matter with the other mining Superintendents. Mr. A.V.Ramanathan asked him the probable time as to when he would reply for which he said that he would soon send the reply etc. And the notice now issued by the mining authorities is the result of their conversation with A.V.Ramanathan. Govindarajalu further stated that he represented his difficulty that he had to answer 27,000 labourers who are anxious to know the recommendations of Sri Mathan and as such he requested A.V.Ramanathan to publish the reports of Mathan early. Sri A.V.Ramanathan promised to do so at an early date. He read the notice issued by the mining authorities to the audience. And then commented that what the Mining authorities have given are no doubt insufficient and the labourers are not contented with grants but they should simply take what is given and patiently wait for better things which would be got through the Union.

Govindarajalu lastly said that the labourers should subscribe 2 annas per head and they should give it regularly without fail into the hands of line-committee members, who will give the collections into the hands of their head who will then hand over the same to the General Committee members of each mine. He announced that each line will have 10 committee members and they will have a head over them. The labourers shall understand that these members are prepared to fight for their cause and hence they shall have full faith in them.

Then one Manimanathan, Secretary to the Champion Reef Committee ~~m~~ got up and said that each line has got 10 committee

232

committee members. They were not newly elected. They had been working hard for the betterment of labourers for the last 9 months. They are the best people suited for their jobs. Anything the labourers want to do should represent it through them who would then bring it to the notice of Union. Then the Union would take necessary steps in redressing the grievances of the labourers. The labourers are requested not to do anything independent of the union and thus bring in an unpleasant affair not only for their detrement but also to the industry as a whole. They have got the Union to do everything for them in a constitutional manner.

Then one Perumal of 'I' Block, Champion Reef got up and said that some contractors, i.e., Mr. Seetharama Naidu of Marikuppam were discouraging the leaders who were agitating to get the labour union and then he requested in a sarcastic manner, that the contractors would now understand the firm unity of the labourers and go by the side of the labourers without any clash with them.

Lastly Lakshmana Mudaliar got up and concluded the meeting by saying that the Union means the unity of the labourers. The labourers can do and undo things if they are only united under the banners of the Union. They can even get the section 17 M.M. Act cancelled. The section was -- adopted for the people and the people were not adopted for the Section. If the labourers say in one voice that they do not want the Section 17 M.M. Act the Government will immediately respond to the voice of labourers and do the needful. They should be grateful to Sri V.V. Giri, P.R.K. Sharma and A.V.Ramanathan who showed them the way to get the Labour - Union.

He further stated that the labourers are requested to subscribe 2 annas per head without fail and thus strengthen the Sangham. The money given by them will be utilized only for their betterment and not otherwise. The money will be passing to the Sangham, through line-committees

and the general committees and as such there will be no chances for anybody to mis-appropriate the money. The accounts will be shown to anybody and at any time in case anybody wants to check them.

He finally exhorted the labourers to be united, and not to bring in a strike all on a sudden without the knowledge of the Sangham. The Sangham is for them and fights for their betterme Lastly he announced that there would be a meeting at the Rugby Ground, Nandydroog mine on 7-8-1941 evening.

The meeting terminated at 8-15 p.m. with cheers to the Mysore Government, Sri V.V. Giri, Sri Sharma, A.V.Ramanathan, K. Mathan, R.C. Phillips, A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar, Sangham and the K.G.F. Labourers.

" Copy "

Camp:Oorgaum.
8th/9th Aug.1941.

S. Narayanaswamy
9/8

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, KOLAR DISTT.

N. PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 10th August 1941.

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my report of yesterday, I beg to state that there was no meeting on the 6th instant as previously announced.

It is further reported that four coolies working under Contracter Mr. Mathur Krishnan by name (i) Penathur Chinnappan (ii) Keeresath Thangavelu, (iii) Gudiyatham Narayanaswamy, (iv) Tirupathi Muniswami were turned out of work by the mining authorities on 6-8-1941 since they were not regularly attending to their work. The said four coolies approached Doraisaj, Joseph, Kuttikrishna Nair and Ramaswamy who are the members of the Union but they were replied that nothing could be done in their cases since the fault lies with them. At about 8.45 p.m. on 7-8-41 they went near the Shaft and attracted the coolies and instigated them to go in a body to the Superintendent on their behalf. In the meanwhile the Police came to the place and dispersed the mob. The coolies went to work and the four dismissed coolies went home. The situation is normal.

It is reported that one Nateshan T.No.6919 and another Alvi No.6982 working under Contractor Mr. Ratnam quarrelled each other at about 2.30 p.m. on 8-8-41 at the 850 feet level, McTaggart's Incline Mysore mine and that Alvi beat the other cooly with the Carbide lamp on the head which caused a bleeding injury on the head. When they came up to the Surface about 100 coolies gathered around to see as to what the matter was. The Banksman removed the injured to the Company Hospital and the gathering dispersed. From the Company Hospital he is stated

In continuation of my report of yester-
day, I beg to state that there was no meeting on
the 6th instant as previously announced.

It is further reported that four coolies
working under Contractor Mr. Pachur Krishnan by
name (i) Ponnuthur Chinnappen (ii) Keresamy Muniya-
vela, (iii) Gadiyatham Maryanasamy, (iv) Thum-
pathi Munisamy were turned out of work by the
mining authorities on 6-8-1941 since they were not
regularly attending to their work. The said four
coolies supported Dorairaj, Joseph, Muthukrishna
Nair and Ramasamy who are the members of the Union
but they were replied that nothing could be done in
their cases since the fault lies with them. It
appears that on 7-8-41 they went near the mart
and attracted the coolies and travelled then to
form a body to the Superintendent on their behalf.
In the meanwhile the Police came to the place and
dispersed the mob. The coolies went to work and
the four dismissed coolies went home. The situa-
tion is normal.

It is reported that one Ponnuthan T.Ponnuthu
and another Alvi No.6982 working under Contractor
Mr. Pathan quarrelled each other at about 2.30 p.m.
on 8-8-41 at the 850 feet level, Lodgeworth's Incline
Veore mine and that Alvi beat the other coolly with
the Carbide lamp on the head which caused a bleed-
ing injury on the head. When they came up to the
surface about 100 coolies gathered around to see as
to what the matter was. The Pathanan removed the
injured to the Company Hospital and was returning
dispersed. From the Company Hospital he is stated

2501

to have been removed to the Civil Hospital where he is kept an inpatient. The injury is ascertained to be not serious.

Yours sincerely,

SD/- N. PUTTARANGASWAMY,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,(Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

NR/-

Copies in duplicate forwarded, with compliments, to the Special Branch in Mysore, Bangalore.

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.
22/10/8

130

to have been removed to the Civil Hospital where is kept an inpatient. The injury is ascertained to be not serious.

Yours sincerely,

SD/- H. PUTTAMADAPPA Y,

Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

Copies in duplicate forwarded, with compliments, to the Special Branch in Kolar, Bangalore.

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

422 · 241
C.B.

OFFICE OF THE
MINISTER FOR LAW
AUG 12 1941
No. 1418

No.C.C.27/40-41.
Encl. One.

Office of the Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.
Dated the 11th day of August, 1941. (Kolar)

From

S. Narayana Rao, Esq., M.A.(Hons.).,
Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

To

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesaviengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to the Government of
H.H. the Maharaja of Mysore, Bangalore.

Sir,

In continuation of my letter of even number dated the 8th instant, re. the labour situation at K.G.F., I have the honour to enclose herewith for information, a copy of D.O. letter No.C.C.20/40-41, dated the 10th inst. received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

S. Narayana Rao

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
KOLAR DISTRICT.

Subd
12/8/41
12/8
12/8

vkm.11/8.4.

138

. SUBRAMANIAM, M.A., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 10th August 1941.

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my report of yesterday, I beg to state that there was no meeting on the 6th instant as previously announced.

It is further reported that four coolies working under Contractor Mr. Mathur Krishnan by name (i) Ponathur Chinnappan (ii) Keeresath Arunagavelu, (iii) Gudiyatham Narayanaswamy, (iv) Arupathi Muniswami were turned out of work by the mining authorities on 6-8-1941 since they were not regularly attending to their work. The said four coolies approached Doraisaj, Joseph, Muttukrishna Nair and Ramaswamy who are the members of the Union but they were replied that nothing could be done in their cases since the fault lies with them. At about 8.45 p.m. on 7-8-41 they went near the Shaft and attracted the coolies and instigated them to go in a body to the Superintendent on their behalf. In the meanwhile the Police came to the place and dispersed the mob. The coolies went to work and the four dismissed coolies went home. The situation is normal.

It is reported that one Maveshan P.No.6[illegible] and another Alvi No.6982 working under Contractor Mr. Mathan quarrelled each other at abo[illegible] 7.30 p.m. on [illegible]-8-41 at the [illegible] feet level, [illegible]'s Incline Shore mine and that Alvi beat the other coolly with the Carbide lamp on the head which caused a bleeding injury on the head. When they came up to the surface about [illegible] coolies gathered around to see as to what the matter was. The Badlisman removed the injured to the Company Hospital and the gathering dispersed. From the Company Hospital he is stated

246

to have been removed to the Civil Hospital where he is kept an inpatient. The injury is ascertained to be not serious.

Yours sincerely,

S. NARAYANA RAO, M.A., L.A., (Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

MV-

"Copy"

S. Narayanarao

Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar Dist.

Dy Commr
Kolar

132

D. No: 5/41-42/S.B.

E. G. B. PEEL, Esq., C.I.E.,
Inspector-General of Police
in Mysore.

SECRET

OFFICE OF THE
MINISTER FOR LAW
AUG 13 1941
No. 1465

434 CB 246

BANGALORE

Dated August 12, 41

My dear Kesavaiengar,

I enclose for the information of Government copies of two reports No.20/40-41 dated 11-8-41 received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, regarding the activities of labourers.

Yours
Peel

Subd
(Law Minister)
12/8/41

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Mysore,
Bangalore.

N. PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 11th August 1941.

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports, I beg to state that the coolies of the Nandydroog mine approached the Superintendent of the mine on 8th and requested him to give them work on Sundays and particularly on Sunday the 10th instant to compensate the loss they had sustained on the 4th inst., due to strike. The Superintendent replied that they are in the habit of effecting strike on frivilous causes and as such he could not do anything in the matter. The coolies however insisted that they should be given work on Sundays whereupon the Superintendent told them that he would consider the matter and tell them in due course. The coolies afterwards went to work discontented.

Yours sincerely,

SD/- N. PUTTARANGASWAMY,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.(Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

NR/-

Copies in duplicate, forwarded with compliments, to the Superintendent of Police, Special Branch in Mysore, Bangalore.

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

H. PUTTARADASWAMY, BSc., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

CC.20/40-41.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 11th August 1941.

251

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports I beg to state that the coolies of the Ist dyeroog mine approached the superintendent of the mine and requested him to give them work on Sundays and particularly on Sunday the 10th instant to compensate the loss they had sustained on the 4th inst., due to strike. The Superintendent replied that they are in the habit of effecting strike on frivolous causes and as such he could not do anything in the matter. The coolies however insisted that they should be given work on Sundays whereupon the Superintendent told them that he would consider the matter and tell them in due course. The coolies afterwards went to work discontented.

Yours sincerely,

SD/- H. PUTTARADASWAMY,

HR/-

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESq., M.A.(Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

Copies in duplicate, forwarded with compliments, to the Superintendent of Police, Special Branch in Mysore, Bangalore.

Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

N. PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 11th August 1941.

52

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports, I beg to state that a meeting of the Champion Reef mines labourers was held at 'I' Block, Champion Reef on the evening of 10-8-41 in connection with the demise of Poet Rabindranath Tagore. The gathering was about 200 labourers and Arul and Perumal of Champion Reef and Ratnam of Engineering Department spoke about the greatness of the Poet and finally uttered Jayakaras to Mahatma Gandhi, Javarlal Nehru, Subas Chandra Bose and V.V. Giri. While these Jayakaras were being cried Ekambaram and V.P. Raju of justice party took objection for the same on the ground that the meeting was one of condolence for the departed soul and not for the Congress leaders' greatness, as a result of which Dorai and Masilamani of S.B. Block and 'D' Block assaulted them. A complaint of assault has been reported to the local police in the matter.

It is also reported that the underground coolies of Champion Reef requested the underground Chief Agent to give their wages for 10-8-41 since they had no work on account of failure of Electricity. The Chief Agent directed them to the Superintendent of the mine who told the coolies that he would give wages for the day and not the bonus. The coolies then went to their work.

Yours sincerely,
SD/- N. PUTTARANGASWAMY,

NR/-

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,(Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

Copies in duplicate, forwarded with compliments, to the Superintendent of Police, Special Branch in Mysore, Bangalore.

13

11/8

Spl. Superintendent of Police.

M. PUTTARACHARYA, MSc., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 11th August 1941.

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports, I beg to state that a meeting of the Champion Reef mines labourers was held at 'I' Block, Champion Reef on the evening of 10-8-41 in connection with the demise of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. The gathering was about 200 labourers and Arul Jaya Perumal of Champion Reef and Pathan of Engineering Department spoke about the greatness of the late Pandit and finally uttered Jayakaras to Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, Subhas Chandra Bose and V.V. Giri. While these Jayakaras were being cried Krishnaram and V.P. Raju of Justice party took objection for the same on the ground that the meeting was one of condolence for the departed soul and not for the Congress leaders' greatness, as a result of which Doraiswamy and Mallamma of S.E. Block and 'D' Block assaulted them. A complaint of assault has been reported to the local police in the matter.

It is also reported that the underground coolies of Champion Reef requested the underground Chief Agent to give their wages for 10-8-41 since they had no work on account of failure of electricity. The Chief Agent directed them to the Superintendent of the mine who told the coolies that he would give wages for the day and not the bonus. The coolies then went to their work.

Yours sincerely,

SD/- M. PUTTARACHARYA,

S. NARAYANA RAO, MSc., M.A., (Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

Copies in duplicate, forwarded to the complainants, to the Superintendent of Police, Special Branch in Mysore, Bangalore.

11/8

Spl. Superintendent of Police.

440 284
CB

No.C.C.27/40-41.
Encl. ~~One~~. Two.

Office of the Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.
Dated, Kolar the 12th day of August 1941

From

S. Narayana Rao, Esq., M.A.(Hons.).,
Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

To

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesaviengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to Government of
H.H. the Maharaja of Mysore, Bangalore.

Sir,

In continuation of my letter of even number dated 9th August 1941, re. the labour situation at K.G.F., I have the honour to enclose herewith, for information, copies of D.O. letters No.C.C.20/40-41, dated 11th August 1941.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

Subd

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
KOLAR DISTRICT.

OFFICE OF THE
MINISTER FOR LAW
AUG 13 1941
No. 1491

vkm.4.

136

N. PUTTANNAIAH, ESQ., B.Sc.,
G.I. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 11th August 1941.

CC.20/40-41.

256

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports I beg to state that a meeting of the Champion Reef mines labourers was held at 'I' Block, Champion Reef on the evening of 10-8-41 in connection with the demise of Poet Rabindranath Tagore. The gathering was about 200 labourers and Arul and Perumal of Champion Reef and Ratnam of Engineering Department spoke about the greatness of the Poet and finally uttered Jayakaras to Mahatma Gandhi, Javarlal Nehru, Subas Chandra Bose and V.V. Giri. While these Jayakaras were being cried Akambaram and V.P. Raju of Justice party took objection for the same on the ground that the meeting was one of condolence for the departed soul and not for the Congress leaders' greatness as a result of which Dorai and Vasilamani of S.B. Block and 'D' Block assaulted them. A complaint of assault has been reported to the local police in the matter.

It is also reported that the underground coolies of Champion Reef requested the underground Chief Agent to give their wages for 10-8-41 since they had no work on account of failure of electricity. The Chief Agent directed them to the Superintendent of the mine who told the coolies that he would give wages for the day and not the bonus. The coolies then went to their work.

Yours sincerely,

G. RAMAYYA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,(Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

NN/-

"Copy"

Camp: Sri Laghatta
dt 12/8/41.

Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

N. SUBRAMANIAM, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 11th August 1941.

CC.20/40-41.

258.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports, I beg to state that the coolies of the Nandydroog mine approached the Superintendent of the mine on 8/8 and requested him to give them work on Sundays and particularly on Sunday the 10th instant to compensate the loss they had sustained on the 4th inst., due to strike. The Superintendent replied that they are in the habit of effecting strike on frivilous causes and as such he could not do anything in the matter. The coolies however insisted that they should be given work on Sundays whereupon the Superintendent told them that he would consider the matter and tell them in due course. The coolies afterwards went to work discontented.

Yours sincerely,
Subramaniam

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.(Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

NRV/-

Comm: Sir Laghatta
12/8/41

"Copy"
S. Narayana Rao
12/8/41

Deputy Commr.,
Kolar Dt.

D. O. No. 5/41-42/SB.
Encls.(9)

SECRET.

444/CB 250

E. G. B. PEEL, Esq., C.I.E.,
Inspector-General of Police
in Mysore.

BANGALORE

August 13, 1941.

DEWAN'S OFFICE
No. 1295

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR LAW
AUG 13 1941
No. 1504

My dear Keswaiengar,

I enclose for the information of Government a copy of a report No.CC.20/40-41 dated August 12, 1941, received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, regarding the proceedings of a public meeting of the labourers held at K.G.F. on 11-8-1941.

Yours
E. G. B. Peel

Subd
(Law minister) 13/8/41
Page 5 is for Bengal
13-8-41
(Dewan)

Rajasevaprasakta
B. T. Keswaiengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to the Government of
H.H.the Maharaja of Mysore, Bangalor

9

N. PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 12th August 1941.

265

CC.20/40-41

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my report of yesterday, I beg to state that there was a meeting of the K.G.F. labourers at the Jerky Ground near Robertson pet Travellers' Bungalow on the evening of 11-8-41 with a gathering of about 2000 labourers. A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar presided. Rayappan expressed his heartfelt sorrow on behalf of the K.G.F. labourers for the sad demise of the great Poet Rabindranath Tagore and S.I. Perumal cried KAVI CHAKRAVARTHY RABINDRANATH-KI JAI. The audience repeated the same. Then Rayappan, Mahimanathan, Govindaraja Mudaliar and Kannyappan spoke about the facilities afforded by the formation of an union and the strength in an Union. They exhorted the coolies to become members and pay the subscriptions regularly. They criticised the attitude of some of the persons who are opposed to the formation of Unions.

Lastly Lakshmana Mudaliar appealed for regular subscriptions towards the union. He also spoke about the powers of the Union and remarked sarcastically that the Police Officers below the rank of the District Superintenden of Police are Minor Gods and are giving much trouble to the coolies and that the latter need not be afraid of them.

After the close of the meeting about 100 copies of page No.3 of the News paper (DAILY NEWS) were sold at 3 pies a copy.

An English Translation of the proceedings of the meeting is enclosed.

140

Yours sincerely,
Sd. N. Puttarangaswamy

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,Hon)
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar.

NR/-

Champion Reef,
Dated 12th August 1921.

R. POTTAMBALAM, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Dy. Superintendent of Police.

CC.82/21-1.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my report of yesterday, I beg to state that there was a meeting of the K.G.F. labourers at the early Round near Robertson pet Travellers' Bungalow on the evening of 11-8-21 with a gathering of about 2000 labourers. A.T. Rasalingam Mudaliar presided. Kayappan expressed his heartfelt sorrow on behalf of the K.G.F. labourers for the sad demise of the great poet Rabindranath Tagore and L.I. personal cried ENNI MAKKAVANTHY MADHURANANTH-NI ZAI. The audience repeated the same. Then Kayappan, Lakshmanan, Jovindaraja Mudaliar and Ramyappan spoke about the facilities afforded by the formation of an union and the strength in an union. They exhorted the people to become members and pay the subscriptions regularly. They criticised the attitude of some of the persons who are opposed to the formation of unions.

Lastly Lakshmana Mudaliar appealed for regular subscriptions towards the union. He also spoke about the powers of the Union and remarked sarcastically that the Police Officers below the rank of the District Superintendent of Police are minor Gods and are giving much trouble to the people and that the latter need not be afraid of them.

After the close of the meeting about 100 copies of page 4 of the News paper (TAMIL MITRAN) were sold at 3 pies a copy.

An English Translation of the proceedings of the meeting is enclosed.

Yours sincerely,

S. RAMAYYA AYO, ESQ., M.A., (Hon)
Deputy Commissioner, K.Lar.

Copies in duplicate, forwarded, with compliments, to the Superinendent of Police, Special Branch in Mysore, Bangalore.

12/8.

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

NR/-

12/8

Proceedings of the meeting held at the Jerky Grounds near Robertsonpet Travellers' Bungalow on 11/8/41 under the auspicious of the Labour Union at about 6.15 p.m.

***

A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar of Andersonpet, Rayappan, Teacher, St. Mary's School, Mahimanathan, Govindaraja Mudaliar of Oorgaum, Behur Gnanamani of 'B' Block, G. Narayanaswamy of Mysore mines, Kannayappan of Mysore mines were among those prominent people who attended the meeting There was a gathering of about 2000 labourers mostly of th lower class.

Royappan after having requested A.T. Lakshmana Mudal to preside, expressed his heartfelt sorrow at the sudden irrepairable death of the Poet Rabindranatha Tagore. All the gathering cried "TAGORE KI JAI". He extrolled the beneign Government of Mysore for having granted them all Union and continued that they must prove themselves worthy of the honour done to them and continued that the Mysore Government was like a Father giving properties to children and the children had to make best use of the properties and bring credit to the father. He told the audience that it had been almost a herculean struggle on the part of the labour leaders to form this Union and the labourers should prove worthy of the same and make the best use of the Union. He mentioned the name of Mr. P.R.K. Sharma and stated that the latter had spared no efforts to form this Union and had even sacrificed his personal conforts for the good of the labourers. He after appealing the audience to pay subscriptions regulalry, exhorted them to remain united and not to be carried away by people who carry anti-propoganda against the Union. He continued that through the Labour Union they would get thousand times more than what they were getting by the mining authorities by way of issual of notices etc. He concluded by offering his thanks for having listened patiently.

Mahimanathan was the next speaker. Speaking about the international crisis and consequent enhancement of

rates in all the food-stuffs, he said that every Indian was feeling the pinch of the war indirectly or directly. He appealed them not to strike on frivolous and vexation grounds and thanked the mining authorities for their generosity in having granted the labourers an extra bonus of Re.1/- and 6 rupees towards their "Mining dress allowance". He continued that these benefits they derived were the outcome of the Labour Union which re-represented all the labourers at K.G.F. He added that every grievance of the labourers should be ventilated through the Labour Union and for the said purpose, the labour union must be strong and should represent every labourer. But the union, to live and to maintain itself it must have funds and cooperation of all the labourers and requested them to subscribe regularly.

Some employee of Champion Reef sang a song in Tamil to the effect that they should tread the path of P.R.K. Sharma, Giri and should remain united and make the best of the union which was the gift of Mr. A.V.Ramanathan and the mine-out labourers should be got back and restored

Lakshmana Mudaliar having introduced Govindaraja Mudaliar to the audience requested them to listen patientl to the latter while he spoke.

Govindaraja Mudaliar began by singing a song in Tamil exhorting the labourers to remain united, ventilate their grievances through the labour union and subscribe to the upkeep of the Union etc. He said that it was the hard and untiring effort on the part of their young selfless leaders that had resulted in the formation of a labour union which had won recognition by the benign Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore which had the honour of being announced in the Mysore Gazette. He illustrated by the story of a great MAHOPODYA vidwan being defeated by the wisdom and common sence of an young boy. He continued that the great Vidwan was in the habit of canvafloging the other vidwans and collecting

money out of them. One day when the servant of the vidwan went to collect subscriptions from a teacher and fortunately the teacher being absent, one young boy challenged before the King to say who is who, the private life of the King and Queen and the private life of the Vidwan. The Vidwan could not answer the boy, the boy not knowing the consequence, knowing who was who, told the audience the private life of King and Queen and also of the Vidwan etc. As such the labourers should have full confidence in them. He also stated that the accounts of the Union would be shown for inspection at any time to the labour Union and any man who had misappropirated any amount was liable to a fine of Rs.500/-. He stated that the labourers need not be least afraid of the utility of their subscriptions which was spent for the benefit and uplift of the poor labourers. He after condemning the time old practice of the maistries, Foremen or persons in authority taking bribes from the coolies, told them that it amounted to the sucking of blood from poor labourers. He requested them to bring to notice of the union such unhealthy practice, and that the labour union should take prompt and desciplinary action against the corrupt administrators. He concluded by shouting Jais to Mr. Ramanathan, A.V., Giri and Sharma and the Labour Union.

Gnanamany after having been introduced by Lakshmana Mudaliar next spoke. He began by telling them that the Champion Reef coolies were the coolies who were ill-provided in comparison to all the other mines. The sink coolies of Champion mines did not get a single pie bonus whereas the other coolies of other mines got bonus for all the 30 days. He requested the mining authorities of Champion to provide them better if not in equal status with the other mining employees.

One Perumal of Champion Reef mine next spoke. He began by informing the audience that an old labourer living

at 'I' Block, Champion Reef refused to pay subscription informing them that he would go directly to the mining authorities. This attitude of the labourers was, he said disgraceful in view of the well established fact of having known the advantages of the labour union. He continued that services of Mr. & Mrs. A.T. Lalkshmana Mudaliar to the labourers were monumental and that the latter may justily be called BHARATHA MATHA. He concluded by saying that the ward boys were given 12 Rs. per month and made to work 12 hours per day. He appealed to the doctors to give the Ward boys at the mining hospital shifts like the mine shifts.

Kannappan of Mysore mines next spoke. Speaking about the accounts, and the subscriptions, he stated that the labourers ought to respect the integrity of the leaders and that every pie they subscribed was to the betterment of the labourers.

Lakshmana Mudaliar, introducing G. Narayanswamy of Mysore mine said that he was the General Secretary for the whole of K.G.F. labourers. He began by saying NO PAINS - NO GAINS and said that only hard work will bring them food, and explained the unsurmountable difficulties of their leaders for having brought the union in to existence. He said that to get the labour union, the leaders had to pass through the wooden door, then the iron door, and later the door of gold and finally had to pass the diamond door where the magic lamp i.e. the union lie hidden. With great difficulty having passed all the doors, their leaders were able to get the magic lamp. He concluded by requesting them to join the Union and pay subscription regularly.

Once more Royappan got up and read out the following resolutions which were unanimously passed :-

1. That the labourers pray that the Government may order the establishment of labour union at an early date and are glad that the mining authorities have agreed

to recognise the labour union.

2. That the labourers merely request the Government to rescind the undesirable notices on Sharma and allow him to enter and guide them. It was also resolved that the Government should be moved to withdraw the order against K.C. Phillips and allow him to be the General Secretary of the K.G.F. Labour Union.

3. The K.G.F. labourers are fondly expecting Dewan Bahadur K. Mathan's report and hence the Government is requested to publish early.

4. The labourers do hereby appeal to the authorities of Sanitary Board, K.G.F. to revise the rates of provision in the market.

5. The labourers do hereby resolve to move the mining authorities to give them war allowance to enable them to purchase food-stuffs which has gone very high.

The members of the Union and the labourers regret and hereby apologise to Mr. Duraiswamier, the Chief Inspector of mines on behalf of the Nandydroog labourers who misbehaved on 4-8-41 towards the Chief Inspector of Mines.

He concluded by saying that copies of the resolution would be sent to Sri A.V. Ramanathan, authorities of the Sanitary Board, Chief Inspector of mines and to the mining authorities.

Lakshmana Mudaliar - the Presient finally spoke. He began by complaining that the Nandydroog and Oorgaum mines labourers were very slack in their subscriptions and appraised them of the benefits of the association. He also informed them that they would be keeping clear and regular accounts and the Government would also be checking the accounts through a certified Auditor once in a way, ~~hence~~. Hence there was absolutely no chance of the authorities of the union, to misappropriate even a single pie. He of course accepted that some money

was spent towards the Railway fare of Sri Sharma and some money for boarding and lodging of mine-out employees.

He added that the Union after its recognition would have immense strength and power and the union can do and undo things and every one who ever be may be, will have to bow down. He continued that Section 17 M.M. Act which contemplates the 24 hours notice and consequent removal from K.G.F. would be removed from the M.M. Act if the labourer union representing all the labourers cried in one voice that the legislature ought to remove the particular section from the M.M. Act. He added that the power and strength of the Union will not be questioned. If they did not like the contractors the union could say in one voice TAKE OUT THE CONTRACTORS and the contractors had to go home. He continued that the Police Officers lower in grade of the S.S.P. had become demi-gods (ಕೆಳ ದರ್ಜೆ ದೇವತೆಗಳು) and informed them that were creating trouble and panic among the labourers. He said that one of the demi-gods had sent word for him to his office about three times. It was perhaps to ask him to put a stop to the frequent meetings he was arranging. He continued that the salary of the Police Officers was paid out of the wages of poor labourer as such they were the servants of the labourers, and the duty of the Police was to take down lecture notes and not to insist on forbidding of frequent meetings. It was their duty to arrange frequent meetings and know the grievances of the labourers. If meetings are forbidden by authoritative demi gods strikes will be a frequent and probable consequence of discontentment. He added that in case the Government choose to hear these demi-gods (ಕೆಳ ದರ್ಜೆ ದೇವತೆಗಳು) meaning Police Officers below the rank of D.S.P. and continued to prosecute the poor labourers, it would be far advisable to go out of the State and live in a country where the rights and liberties of a person are recognised and not curtailed. He continued

that these demi-gods are passing birds, casually ~~came~~ come here and go away soon and added that the labourers need not be afraid in any manner to these demigods who cannot do anything. The labourers permanently reside here, the demi-gods come and go and hence there is nothing to fear.

He dwelt later about the virtue of being united and exhorted the labourers to join the union brushing aside, caste and communal prejudices. Labour Union had only one motto i.e. the betterment of the labourers. It does not care whether he is a congressite or a Justice party man. It only wanted and lived for the uplift of labourers. He concluded by saying that they should not give room for splits because of different parties and communities and requested them to join the union in large numbers.

The meeting came to a close at 9-30 p.m. with JAIS to Mysore Government, Mr. Ramanathan, Mathan, Sharma, and Lakshmana Mudaliar and the Union.

***

" COPY "

O Subbaraya
12/8.

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

NR/-

410
CB

No.C.C.27/40-41.
Encls. Two.

Office of the Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.
Dated, Camp:Chikballapur the 14th Aug

From

S. Narayana Rao, Esq., M.A.(Hons.
Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

To

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesaviengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to Government
of Mysore, Bangalore.

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose herewith copies of D.O.No. C.C.20/40-41 and its enclosure, regarding the labour situatio in K.G.F., received from the Special Superintendent of Police K.G.F., for information.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

S. Narayanarao

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
KOLAR DISTRICT.

Subd

(Law Minister)

MK 16/8/41

Ans 17/8

MK 18/8

OFFICE OF THE
MINISTER FOR LAW
AUG 16 1941
No. 1612

149

N. PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 12th August 1941.

EC.80/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my report of yesterday, I beg to state that there was a meeting of the K.G.F. labourers at the Jerky Ground near Robertsonpet Travellers' Bungalow on the evening of 11-8-41 with a gathering of about 2000 labourers. A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar presided. Rayappan expressed his heartfelt sorrow on behalf of the K.G.F. labourers for the sad demise of the great Poet Rabindranath Tagore and S.I. Perumal cried KAVI CHAKRAVARTHY RABINDRANATH-KI JAI. The audience repeated the same. Then Rayappan, Mahimanathan, Govindaraja Mudaliar and Kannyappan spoke about the facilities afforded by the formation of an union and the strength in an Union. They exhorted the coolies to become members and pay the subscriptions regularly. They criticised the attitude of some of the persons who are opposed to the formation of Unions.

Lastly Lakshmana Mudaliar appealed for regular subscriptions towards the union. He also spoke about the powers of the Union and remarked sarcastically that the Police Officers below the rank of the District Superintenden of Police are Minor Gods and are giving much trouble to the coolies and that the latter need not be afraid of them.

After the close of the meeting about 100 copies of page No.3 of the News paper (DAILY NEWS) were sold at 3 pies a copy.

An English Translation of the proceedings of the meeting is enclosed.

Yours sincerely,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,Hon)
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar.

NR/-

Proceedings of the meeting held at the Jerky Grounds near Robertsonpet Travellers' Bungalow on 11/8/41 under the auspicies of the Labour Union at about 6.15 p.m.

A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar of Andersonpet, Rayappan, Teacher, St. Mary's School, Mahimanathan, Govindaraja Mudaliar of Oorgaum, Behur Ghanamani of 'S' Block, G. Narayanaswamy of Mysore mines, Kannayappan of Mysore mines were among those prominent people who attended the meeting. There was a gathering of about 2000 labourers mostly of the lower class.

Royappan after having requested A.T. Lakshmana Mudalis to preside, expressed his heartfelt sorrow at the sudden irrepairable death of the Poet Rabindranatha Tagore. All the gathering cried "TAGORE KI JAI". He extolled the benign Government of Mysore for having granted them all Union and continued that they must prove themselves worthy of the honour done to them and continued that the Mysore Government was like a Father giving properties to children and the children had to make best use of the properties and bring credit to the father. He told the audience that it had been almost a herculean struggle on the part of the labour leaders to form this Union and the labourers should prove worthy of the same and make the best use of the Union. He mentioned the name of Mr. P.R.K. Dhorma and stated that the latter had spared no efforts to form this Union and had even sacrificed his personal comforts for the good of the labourers. He after appealing the audience to pay subscriptions regularly, exhorted them to remain united and not to be carried away by people who carry anti-propoganda against the Union. He continued that through the Labour Union they would get thousand times more than what they were getting by the mining authorities by way of issual of notices etc. He concluded by offering his thanks for having listened patiently.

Mahimanathan was the next speaker. Speaking about the international crisis and consequent enhancement of

rates in all the food-stuffs, he said that every Indian was feeling the pinch of the war indirectly or directly. He appealed them not to strike on frivolous and vexation grounds and thanked the mining authorities for their generosity in having granted the labourers an extra bonus of Re.1/- and 6 rupees towards their "Mining dress allowance". He continued that these benefits they derived were the outcome of the Labour Union which re-represented all the labourers at K.G.F. He added that every grievance of the labourers should be ventilated through the Labour Union and for the said purpose, the labour union must be strong and should represent every labourer. But the union, to live and to maintain itself it must have funds and cooperation of all the labourers and requested them to subscribe regularly.

Some employee of Champion Reef sang a song in Tamil to the effect that they should tread the path of M.K. Sharma, Giri and should remain united and make the best of the union which was the gift of Mr. A.V.Ramanathan and the mine-out labourers should be got back and restored.

Lakshmana Mudaliar having introduced Govindaraja Mudaliar to the audience requested them to listen patiently to the latter while he spoke.

Govindaraja Mudaliar began by singing a song in Tamil exhorting the labourers to remain united, ventilate their grievances through the labour union and subscribe to the upkeep of the Union etc. He said that it was the hard and untiring effort on the part of their young selfless leaders that had resulted in the formation of a labour union which had won recognition by the benign Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore which had the honour of being announced in the Mysore Gazette. He illustrated by the story of a great PANDITHA vidwan being defeated by the wisdom and common sence of an young boy. He continued that the great Vidwan was in the habit of cataflouting the other vidwans and collectiw

money out of them. One day when the servant of the vidwan went to collect subscriptions from a teacher and fortunately the teacher being absent, one young boy challenged before the King to say who is who, the private life of the King and Queen and the private life of the Vidwan. The Vidwan could not answer the boy, the boy not knowing the consequence, knowing who was who, told the audience the private life of King and Queen and also of the Vidwan etc. As such the labourers should have full confidence in them. He also stated that the accounts of the Union would be shown for inspection at any time to the labour Union and any man who had misappropirated any amount was liable to a fine of Rs..00/-. He stated that the labourers need not be least afraid of the utility of their subscriptions which was spent for the benefit and uplift of the poor labourers. He after condemning the time old practice of the maistries, foreman or persons in authority taking bribes from the coolies, told them that it amounted to the sucking of blood from poor labourers. He requested them to bring to notice of the union such unhealthy practice, and that the labour union should take prompt and desciplinary action against the corrupt administrators. He concluded by shouting Jais to Mr. Ratanathan, M.V., Giri and Sharma and the Labour Union.

Gnanamany after having been introduced by Lakshmana Mudaliar next spoke. He began by telling them that the Champion Reef coolies were the coolies who were ill-provided in comparison to all the other mines. The mink coolies of Champion mines did not get a single pie bonus whereas the other coolies of other mines got bonus for all the 30 days. He requested the mining authorities of Champion to provide them better if not in equal status with the other mining employees.

One Perumal of Champion Reef mine next spoke. He began by informing the audience that an old labourer living

at 'I' Block, Champion Reef refused to pay subscription informing them that he would go directly to the mining authorities. This attitude of the labourers was, he said, disgraceful in view of the well established fact of having known the advantages of the labour union. He continued that services of Mr. & Mrs. A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar to the labourers were monumental and that the latter may justify be called BHARATHA MATHA. He concluded by saying that the ward boys were given 12 Rs. per month and made to work 12 hours per day. He appealed to the Doctors to give the ward boys at the mining hospital shifts like the mine shifts.

Kannyappan of Mysore mines next spoke. Speaking about the accounts, and the subscriptions, he stated that the labourers ought to respect the integrity of the leaders and that every pie they subscribed was to the betterment of the labourers.

Lakshmana Mudaliar, introducing G. Narayanswamy of Mysore mine said that he was the General Secretary for the whole of K.G.F. labourers. He began by saying NAMAM - NO NAME and said that only hard work will bring them food, and explained the unsurmountable difficulties of their leaders for having brought the union in to existence. He said that to get the labour union, the leaders had to pass through the wooden door, then the iron door, and later the door of gold and finally had to pass the diamond door where the magic lamp i.e. the union lie hidden. With great difficulty having passed all the doors, their leaders were able to get the magic lamp. He concluded by requesting them to join the Union and pay subscription regularly.

Once more Koyappan got up and read out the following resolutions which were unanimously passed :-

1. That the labourers pray that the Government may order the establishment of labour union at an early date and are glad that the mining authorities have ag

290

to recognise the labour union.

2. That the labourers merely request the Government to rescind the undesirable notices on Sharma and allow him to enter and guide them. It was also resolved that the Government should be moved to withdraw the order against K.C. Phillips and allow him to be the General Secretary of the K.G.F. Labour Union.

3. The K.G.F. labourers are fondly expecting Swan Bahadur K. Mathan's report and hence the Government is requested to publish early.

4. The labourers do hereby appeal to the authorities of Sanitary Board, K.G.F. to revise the rates of provisions in the market.

5. The labourers do hereby resolve to move the mining authorities to give them war allowance to enable them to purchase food-stuffs which has gone very high.

The members of the Union and the labourers regret and hereby apologise to Mr. Duraiswamier, the Chief Inspector of mines on behalf of the Kandydroog labourers who misbehaved on 4-8-41 towards the Chief Inspector of Mines.

He concluded by saying that copies of the resolution would be sent to Sri A.V. Ramanathan, authorities of the Sanitary Board, Chief Inspector of mines and to the mining authorities.

Lakshmana Mudaliar - the President finally spoke. He began by complaining that the Kandydroog and Sorgaum mines labourers were very slack in their subscriptions and explained them of the benefits of the association. He also informed them that they would be keeping clear and regular accounts and the Government would also be checking the accounts through a certified auditor once in a year. Hence there was absolutely no chance of the authorities of the union, to misappropriate even a single pie. He of course accepted that some money

D 42

was spent towards the Railway fare of Sri Sharma and some money for boarding and lodging of mine-out employees.

He added that the Union after its recognition would have immense strength and power and the union can do and undo things and every one who ever be may be, will have to bow down. He continued that Section 17 I.D. Act which contemplates the 24 hours notice and consequent removal from K.G.F. would be removed from the I.D. Act if the labourer union ~~repenting~~ representing all the labourers cried in one voice that the legislature ought to remove the particular section from the I.D. Act. He added that the power and strength of the Union will not be questioned. If they did not like the contractors the union could say in one voice TAKE OUT THE CONTRACTORS and the contractors had to go home. He continued that the Police Officers lower in grade of the D.S.P. had become demi-gods (ಕೈಚ್ಚ ದೇವತೆಗಳು) and informed them that were creating trouble and panic among the labourers. He said that one of the demi-gods had sent word for him to his office about five times. It was perhaps to ask him to put a stop to the frequent meetings he was arranging. He continued that the salary of the Police Officers was paid out of the wages of poor labourers as such they were the servants of the labourers, and the duty of the Police was ~~was~~ to take down lecture notes and not to insist on forbidding of frequent meetings. It was their duty to arrange frequent meetings and know the grievances of the labourers. If meetings are forbidden by authoritative demi gods strikes will be a frequent and probable consequence of discontentment. He added that in case the Government choose to hear these demi-gods (ಕೈಚ್ಚ ದೇವತೆಗಳು) meaning Police Officers below the rank of D.S.P. and continued to prosecute the poor labourers, it would be far advisable to go out of the State and live in a country where the right and liberties of a person are recognised and not ~~curtailed~~ curtailed. He continu

that these demi-gods are passing birds, casually came here and go away soon and added that the labourers need not be afraid in any manner to these demi-gods who cannot do anything. The labourers permanently reside here, the demi-gods come and go and hence there is nothing to fear.

He dwelt later about the virtue of being united and exhorted the labourers to join the union brushing aside, caste and communal prejudices. Labour Union had only one motto i.e. the betterment of the labourers. It does not care whether he is a congressite or a Justice party man. It only wanted and lived for the uplift of labourers. He concluded by saying that they should not give room for splits because of different parties and communities and requested them to join the union in large numbers.

The meeting came to a close at 9-30 p.m. with thanks to Mysore Government, Mr. Ramanathan, Nathan, Sharma, and Lakshmana Mudaliar and the Union.

***

" COPY "

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

"Copy"
S. Varadarajan
14/8
Secy. Commr.,
Kolar G.F.

SECRET.

D. O. No. 5 /41-42/S.B.
Encl.(1).

456 / 94
CB

E. G. B. PEEL, Esq., C.I.E.,
Inspector-General of Police
in Mysore.

BANGALORE

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR LAW
AUG 15 1941
No. 1578

Dated August 14, 1941

DEWAN'S OFFICE
16. AUG. 1941
No. 1361

Inden Kesavaiengar

I enclose for the information of Government, a copy of a report No. C.C. 20/40-41 dated August 13, 1941, received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, regarding the proposal to appoint Mr. P.R.K. Sharma as President of the Labour Union.

Yours
E. G. B. Peel

Subd
1578
(Law ministry)
Dewan's summary
Dewan's proposal - The Dewan's summary is borne out
whilst yesterday
1578
17/8/41
1578

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Mysore,
Bangalore.

N. PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 13th August 1941.

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my report of yesterday, I beg to state that it is reported that Lakshmana Mudaliar had gone to Bowringpet on the 12th morning to consult Mr. P.R.K. Sharma who was expected there in connection with the selection of Office-bearers to the Union, and returned in the evening. The idea seems to be that Mr. P.R.K. Sharma would be appointed as President on a pay of Rs.100/- and there would also be a Secretary on Rs.50/- or 60/- and two or three Clerks on Rs.15/- or 20/- per month.

Yours sincerely,

SD/- N. PUTTARANGASWAMY,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,(Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

NR/-

Copies in duplicate forwarded, with compliments, to the Superintendent of Police, Spedal Branch in Mysore, Bangalore.

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

487/CB 300

No.C. C.27/40-41.

Encl. One.

Office of the Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.
Dated, Chintamani the 15th August 1941.

From

S. Narayana Rao, Esq., M.A.(Hons.).,
Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

To

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesaviengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to Government of
H.H. the Maharaja of Mysore, Bangalore.

CB. 15/8

Sir,

In continuation of my letter of even number of yesterday's date, I have the honour to forward herewith a copy of letter No.D.O.C.C.20/40-41, dated 13th August 1941, received from the Special Superintendent of Police, K.G.F., for information.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

S. Narayana Rao

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER.

16

H. PUTTANNASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 13th August 1941.

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my report of yester day, I beg to state that it is reported that Lakshmana Mudaliar had gone to Bowringpet on the 12th morning to consult Mr. P.R.K. Sharma who was expected there in connection with the selection of Office-bearers to the Union, and returned in the evening. The idea seems to be that Mr. P.R.K. Sharma would be appointed as President on a pay of Rs.100/- and there would also be a Secretary on Rs.50/- or 60/- and two or three Clerks on Rs.15/- or 20/- per month.

Yours sincerely,

H. Puttannaswamy

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,(Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

HN/-

Camp : Crey
Dy 15/8/41

Copy:
S. Narayana Rao
Dy. Commrs, Kolar Dt.

141

504/AB

304

No.C.C.27/40-41.
Encl. One.

Office of the Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.
Camp: Chikballapur the 17th day of Aug. 1941

From

S. Narayana Rao, Esq., M.A.(Hons.).,
Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

To

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesaviengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to Government of
H.H. the Maharaja of Mysore, Bangalore.

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose herewith a copy of D.O. letter No.C.C.20/40-41, dated 16th August 1941, received from the Special Superintendent of Police, K.G.F., regarding the labour situation at Kolar Gold Fields, for your information.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

S. Narayana Rao

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
KOLAR DISTRICT.

OFFICE OF THE
MINISTER FOR LAW
AUG 19 1941
No. 1680

Law Ministry

Subd

MNS 19/8/41

19/8

MNS 19/8

162

M.PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Pol. Superintendent of Police,

CC.20/40-41

Champion Reefs,
Dated 16th August 1941.

306

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous report I beg to state that it is reported that the butlers of the Mysore Mine are going to send up a petition to the Mining Superintendent for grant of increased wages due to increase of prices in the food stuff.

A meeting of the Kolar Gold Fields labourers had been arranged to be held yesterday at Jerky ground behind the travellers' bungalow but as Mr. Laksmana Mudaliar was not in station it could not be held. About 10 or 15 labourers of Oorgaum Mines and about 10 of Mysore Mine had collected at the place and were conversing with each other for some time. One Rangoon Perumal stated that he has information from a reliable source that Mr. P.R.K.Sharma intends to enrol 2 congress sites from Madras to be on the committee of each labour union to guide and instruct the labourers. Rangoon Perumal felt that there was no necessity to bring in outsiders particularly congress members to the union as it was not fair to the Justice party who toiled for the establishment of the Union. He also said that representation ~~report etc.~~, should be made for cancelling order against Mr. Subramanyam as he is a member of the Justice party and as he toiled very much for the establishment of the union and that efforts should be made to secure a job to Seetha of Oorgaum mine who is a champion of Justice party. After some discussion amoungst those that had assembled there they conclude that these facts should be discussed at the next public meeting and they all dispersed at about 7 ~~6-30~~ P.M.

It is reported that this morning at 6-30 A.M. 16 coolies working under contractor of Perumal of Champion Reefs Mine were sitting in the compound at the Gifford Shaft without going to work and that when the chief Agent ques

163

Chief Agent questioned them they said that their contractors had got a profit of about Rs.1500, and they wanted that a portion of that should be distributed to them. The Chief Mining Agent asked them to represent to the Superintendent and the latter when interviewed told them that they get their wages and advised them to go to work. At that time one Mahimanathan who is one of the Committee members of the Labour Union for the Champion Reef mine asked the labourers to report such matters through the Union. It is reported that the labourers went to work thereafter.

It is ascertained that there is a rumour in the cooly line Champion Reefs Mine that all the coolies both surface and underground of that mine would go and represent to the Superintendent of the mine on the Monday the 18th instant for increase in wages an account of the rise in prices of food stuffs.

Further developments are being watched and will be duly reported.

Yours sincerely,

S.NARAYANA RAO,ESQ., M.A.(Hon),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

Copy
S. Narayana Rao
Deputy Commr., Kolar

Camp: Bangalore
Dt 17/8/41

164

SECRET

D. O. No. 5/41-42/S.B.
Encl. 1.

S-08/CB 310

E. G. B. PEEL, Esq., C.I.E.,
Inspector-General of Police
in Mysore.

CB.
D.C's report
has been sent
1 NOV
1918

BANGALORE
August 18, 1941.

My dear Kesavaiengar,

I enclose for ~~t~~the information of Government a copy of a letter No. C.C.20/40-41 dated August 16, 1941, received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, regarding the activities of ~~the~~ labourers in Kolar Gold Fields.

Yours
E G B Peel

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesavaiengar, Esquire, B.A.,
Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Mysore,
Bangalore.

165

N.PUTTARANGASWAMY,ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police,

Champion Reefs,
Dated 16th August 1941.

312

CC.20/40-41

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports I beg to state that it is reported that the butlers of the Mysore Mine are going to send up a petition to the Mining Superintendent for grant of increased wages due to increase of prices in the food stuff.

A meeting of the Kolar Gold Fields labourers had been arranged to be held yesterday at Jerky ground behind the travellers' bungalow but as Mr. Lakshmana Mudaliar was not in station it could not be held. About 10 or 15 labourers of Oorgaum Mines and about 10 of Mysore Mine had collected at the place and were conversing with each other for some time. One Rangoon Perumal stated that he has information from a reliable source that Mr. P.R.K.Sharma intends to enrol 2 congress sites from Madras to be on the committee of each labour union to guide and instruct the labourers. Rangoon Perumal felt that there was no necessity to bring in outsiders particularly congress members to the union as it was not fair to the Justice party who toiled for the establishment of the Union. He also said that representation should be made for cancelling the order against Dr. Subramanyam as he is a member of the Justice party and as he toiled very much for the establishment of the union and that efforts should be made to secure a job to Seetha of Oorgaum mine who is a champion of Justice party. After some discussion amoungst these that had assembled there they concluded that these facts should be discussed at the next public meeting and they all dispersed at about 7 P.M.

It is reported that this morning at 6-30 A.M. the coolies working under the contractor Sri Annaiah of Champion Reefs Mine were sitting in the compound at the Gifford Shaft without going to work and that when the chief Agent ques-

✓ 314

Chief Agent questioned them they said that their contractors had got a profit of about Rs.1500, and they wanted that a portion of that should be distributed to them. The Chief Mining Agent asked them to represent to the Superintendent and the latter when interviewed told them that they get their wages and advised them to go to work. At that time one Mahimanathan who is one of the Committee members of the Labour Union for the Champion Reef mine asked the labourers to report such matters through the Union. It is reported that the labourers went to work thereafter.

It is ascertained that there is a rumour in the cooly line Champion Reefs Mine that all the coolies both surface and underground of that mine would go and represent to the Superintendent of the mine on the Monday the 18th instant for increase in wages an account of the rise in prices of food stuffs.

Further developments are being watched and will be duly reported.

Yours sincerely,

SD/- N.PUTTARANGASWAMY,

S.NARAYANA RAO,ESQ., M.A.(Hon),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

Copy in duplicate forwarded with compliments to the Superintendent of Police,Special Branch in Mysore, Bangalore.

Spl.Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields

VNR/-

22/6/8

547 · 316
CB.

No.C.C.27/40-41.
Encls. Two.

Office of the Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.
Dated, Camp: Chintamani the 20th Aug. 194

From

S. Narayana Rao, Esq., M.A.(Hons.).,
Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

To

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T.Kesaviengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to Government of
His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, Bangalore.

CB.
NIS
22/8

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose herewith, for information, copies of letters No.C.C.20/40-41, dated 19th and 20th inst. received from the Special Superintendent of Police, K.G.F. re. the labour situation.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

S. Narayana Rao

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
KOLAR DISTRICT.

N. PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police,

Champion Reefs,
Dated 19th August 1941.

C.C.No.20/41-42.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports, I beg to state that Mr. Chengalrai Reddy who came to this place stayed at Robertsonpet in the house of his brother Mr. Venkatarama Reddy. In the evening at about 8 P.M. Lakshmana Mudaliar, Rayappan, Perumal, Gnanamani and four others went to his house and remained with him till about 8-45 P.M. It is probable that they discussed the matter about Mr. Chengalraya Reddy being elected to represent labour.

This morning Mr. Chengalrai Reddy left the place to Kyasamballa with his family.

ours sincerely,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A., (Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

N. PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
20th August 41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports, I beg to inform you that it is rumoured that as a result of the interview of some of the labourers with Messrs. Brahmachari Ramachandran, P.R.K.Sarma and K.Chengalraya Reddy, they have come to a decision that there should be four unions for the four mines and it is also rumoured that Mr.P.R.K. Sarma should be elected President of the Mysore Mine Union, Mr. Chengalraya Reddy for the union of Champion Reef Mine, Mr.Brahmachari Ramachandran for the Union of Oorgaum mine and Mr. T.L.A.Acharya for the union of Nundydroog Mine and that the other office bearers should be selected later; It is also ascertained that the salary of each President should be fixed at Rs.100/- per month; It is said that there is an idea of forming a small common body for all these unions to coordinate the activities of all the four unions on the Field.

The labour union office at Kuppam is now closed and they have taken up a building in Andersonpet and located this office temporarily there.

One Ramalingam, an ex-School Master of Champion Reef mine who has been reported previously by me as having gone away to Vellore from Kuppam has now come back to K.G.F; this individual evaded the service of notice under Section 17 M.M.Act in the month of November 1940 and went away to Kuppam and he had never come to K.G.F. thereafter. He has no means of livelihood here now, and has come back to avail himself of the opportunity to exploit the labour at a time of the formation of the union. He and Lakshmana Mudaliar are suspected to belong to the communist party under the influence of one A.P.Vajravelu Chetty of Kuppam who is now arrested by the Kuppam Police and against whom

whom a case for communistic activities is said to be pending under enquiry.

These two individuals are ascertained to be working on the field to get some influence over labourers and with this end in view of trying to prevent Mr. P.R.K.Sarma and Mr. T.L.A.Acharya being elected Presidents of the Mysore mine and the Nundydroog Mine respectively; It is not desirable to allow either of these two persons to get any hold on the labour population here in view of the communistic tendencies; From my talks with Mr. Ramachandran on the 17th inst. I gather that these two persons are objectionable and are resorting to objectionable activities. I request your orders to serve the notice under Section 17 M.M.Act on Ramalingam immediately. I will watch the movements of Lakshmana Mudaliar for some time and if he continues to set up the pepole against the smooth working of the labour union ~~xxxxxx~~ under the New Legislation, I will report for orders to serve a similar notice on him to quit the K.G.F.area.

Yours sincerely,

S.NARAYANA RAO,ESQ.,M.A.(Hons)
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District,
Kolar.

"Copy"
S. Narayana Rao
Deputy Commr.
Kolar D.

D. 20/8/41.
Comp: Copy.

546/CB 324

No.C.C.27/41-42. Office of the Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.
Encls. ~~Two~~ Three. Dated, Camp: Chintamani the 20th August 1941.

From

S. Narayana Rao, Esq., M.A.(Hons.).,
Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

To

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesaviengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to Government of
H.H. the Maharaja of Mysore, Bangalore.

CB.
I.G.P's report
& Minute has been
Submitted

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith, for information a copy of D.O. letter No.C.C.20/40-41, dated 18th Aug. 1941, together with copies of its enclosures, received from the Special Superintendent of Police, K.G.F.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

S. Narayana Rao

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
KOLAR DISTRICT.

172

K.PUTTAR NGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl.Superintendent of Police,

Champion Reefs
Dated 18th August 1941.

CC.20/41-42

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous report I beg to state that A.T.Lakshmana Mudaliar and one Ramachandra-Raji, a congressite, came to Champion Reefs at 7.P.M. on 16-8-41 and visited a house in Andersonpet which is taken over to locate the office of the Labour union. At about 6.P.M. all the committee members of all the mines met them and remained with them till 9.P.M. It is ascertained that Mr. Ramachandra-Raji is taking charge of the account books, and cash belonging to the Union and that steps will be taken to get the accounts auditted and to deposit the money in the Mysore Bank in the name of the union The Committee members were also informed that Mr. P.R.K.Sharma would be going over to Bowrin pet on 17-8-41 and consequently they all went to Bowringpet by the morning train. Mr. Sharma and Shanmugam arrived there from Madras side. About 75 coolies also joined them near the cigarette factory of Mr. Ramalingam Chetty Bowringpet where Messrs. Ramachandra-Raji and Sharma addressed the gathering explaining to them the various respects of the labourer Act and advised them to take steps to start the unions and to select the office bearers. Mr. Sharma also referred to the notice issued by Mr. Morrison and said that it clearly shows that the capitalists are not hindering the coolies to form Unions. After the meeting Messrs. Ramachandra-raji, T.L.M. Achariya who had also joined them at Bowringpet let for K.G.F. while Mr. Sharma, Shanmugam and the gathering left for Kamasamudram where they had arranged for a metting.

The meeting at Kamasamudram commenced at 2-45 with a gathering of about 800 labourers under a mango tree. Messrs. P.R.K.Sharma , Indraraj, Venk

Venkatarajulu, Perumal and Rayappan spoke in Tamil Mr. P.R.K.Sharma while speaking took out a copy of notice issued by the Superintendent of Nandydroog mine and explained to the labourers in detail the points noted therein. He also said that he had discussed on all aspects with the Law Minister and has requested him to publish Mr. Mathan's report. He told them that he came on receipt of wire about some split among them and appealed to them to give up their petty quarrels and join together to start the union immediately. He further told them that he had met Mr. Chengalraya Reddy at Bangalore and hinted that th should elect him as their representatige. Finally some resolutions were passed and the meeting terminate at 6.P.M. Copies of reports received about the proceedings of the meetings are enclosed for kind perusal.

It is reported that Mr. Chengalraya Reddy has arrived at Gorgaum with his wife and children today a 12.45 P.M. by train and that he went to Robertsonpet. His movements are being watched.

It is also reported that while returning from th meeting at Appepally Perumal of "I"block and Doraraj followed by about 50 boys went through the machine block of Champion Reefs and the house of contractors, Murahari, Chinnappa and K.S.Muniswamy crying "Mahathm Gandhiki Jai","Bharthmataki Jai, V.V.Giriki Jai, and Sharmaki Jai etc."

This day morning Mahimanathan, one of the commit members of the Champion Reefs labour union went with a cooly to one Bangi Raj,a writer under a contr ctor Mr. Madalai Muthu of Champion Reefs as the cooly had been dismissed by the contractor for bad conduct and asked the writer as to why the cooly had been dismissed. The writer told him about the bad conduct of the cooly and asked him whether such things would be encouraged by the Sangam. Mahimanathan then took

then took back the cooly stating that he would speak before the Sangham about it.

Yours sincerely,

J. THIRUVALLA MUDALIAR, M.A., (Hon),
Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District, Kolar.

"Copy"

Deputy Commissioner.
Kolar D.

Submitted

Beg to submit that the below noted gentlemen arrived at Bowringpet this day morning, and were at Mr. Ramalingam Chetty's Cigarette factory near Bowringpet Municipal High School where about 75 mining employees of K.G.F. mines were present to hear the prominent of the visitors, viz., Ramachandraraji of Bangalore and Sharma of Madras. Messrs. Ramachandraraji and T.L.A. Achariya of Bangalore came from K.G.F. to Bowringpet by the 3-45 a.m. train this day. Messrs. Sharma of Madras and Shanmugam of Kuppam arrived from Madras by the morning passenger and from Kuppam yesterday evening respectively.

Messrs. Ramachandraraji and Sharma addressed the gathering in tamil explaining to them of the various aspects of the recently published Mysore Labour Act and appealed to the employees to forget their past grievances and take peaceful steps to have unions established at an early date They also advised the gathering to take much pais and to see that the benifits now given by the Mysore Government by passing the Labour Act are fully availed of by them mutual co-operations.

Mr. Sharma concluded by saying that they must start their work very early by selecting presidents, secretaries and treasurers for the unions and bring the union into working. He also touched about the recently published notice by Mr. Morrison of Mandydroog Mines and said that Mr. Morrison's very act is clear that the capitalists are in no way a hindrance for the formation of unions by the employees.

The address commenced at about 9-15 ... and closed by 11...

Messrs. Ramachandraraji and T.L.A.Achariya left for K.G.F. by the 12'o clock train while Messrs Sharma and Shanmugam and mos of the gathering of employees left to Ramas Mudram by the 12'o clock passenger where it is said Mr. Sharma would be addressing a gathering of mining employees expected to gather there.

324

Of the employees present at the meeting the following were said to be the representatives of the various mines. (1) Mr. Rahimanullan of Champion Reefs (2) K. Veeraraj of Mandydroog (3) Rayappan of Gorgaum (4) Kanniyappan of Lyoore Mine; one ...Lakshmana Mudaliar was also present. Those that went to Gorgaum were pointed out to the Jamedar of Gorgaum station who was also travelling to Gorgaum in the same train and telephone communication made to Kamasamudram police about Mr. Charma's departure to that place.

Sd/-Govinda Pannikar
Dfr. No. 28 of C1 station
Bowringpet.

* * *

Copy
[illegible]
[illegible] of Police
[illegible] 1956

"Copy"
S. Narayana
Deputy Commr., Kolar
Cauch: C. Nilani.
[illegible]

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF K.G.F. LABOURERS ON 17-8-41 NEAR APPEPALLY IN KALASALUDRUM SANCTION LINES

* * *

The meeting commenced at 2-45P.M. The gathering was about 800 . The meeting was held under a mango tree near Appepally. Messrs. P.R.K.Sharma , A.T.Lakshmana Mudaliar, Shanmugam and other mine-out labourers were present. Messrs P.R.K.Sharma , Indraraj, Venkatarajulu Perumal of "I" Block Champion Reefs and Rayappan spoke The speeches were in Tamil. The gathering of labourers appreciated the speeches.

Mr. P.R.K.Sharma spoke first. He said that all over the world there are labour unions. The labourers in those industrial centres did not get their labour unions quite easily. They educated themselves in matters connected with Trade Unions etc., and fought for the unions . And after undergoing all sorts of ordeals and after surmounting all the difficulties they were able to secure labour unions. Now they are enjoying the benefits of the labour unions. Likewise the labourers of K.G.F. strived hard in getting the labour union. Their perseverence and unity among themselves were responsible to get their labour union. The labourers should bear in their minds the hardships they underwent are nothing before the difficulties and dangers they have got to face hereafter.

It is certain that the unions are going to be established in K.G.F. Very shortly . The Government has been kind enough to recognize those unions under statutory provisions. While talking about this Mr.P.R. K.Sharma took out the notice issued by the Mandydroog Mine Superintendent Mr. Harrison. He read it out to the gathering and explained it by taking one item after another.

First he took the item about the labour unions. He thanked the mining authorities for their being liberal. He said that the Government has taken wise steps

wisesteps in putting an end to the periodical disputes between the labourers and the capitalists. But he requests the Government to pass a legislation which recognizes and protects the labour unions. He advised the labourers to make the best use of the labour unions given to them. They should not lend their ears to any body who tries to bring in a split in the union.

Next he explained the second item " Attendence bonus" this attendence bonus is increased by one rupee and the labourers should thank the employers for their being generous. But this attendence bonus is hedged in by all sorts of conditions. For instance a labourer who absents himself due to unavoidable reasons will not get this bonus. And so he requested the employers not to impose such conditions and grant it to the absentees if their absence was due to certified illness or accident.

The leave question was then taken by him. A certai amount of leave is quite essential for a labourer. It is a right of the labourers to avail leave to recump his ener As such the mining employe s are requested to look to this question and well define their terms regarding leave.

He thanked the mining employers for their generosity in granting Rs.6/- towards the working dress to the labour

Service Gratuity:- The notice regarding the service money is very vague. It should be remembered that this was one of the couses of the strike last year. An amount of Rs.25/- is given to a labourer for a service of 10 years. Even then the employers are not willing to part with it. They want that the labourers should have a clean service and should have good conduct through out. The employers are requested to understand that service money is the right established by the labourers. It is even advi eable to grant it to the labourers if he wants to go away from work at his own will If such things are rectified smooth work will be ensured and the management will be an easy task.

Medical reports:- Labourers who would be discharged from work due to medical unfitness, must obtain a copy of the medical report. If the labourer thinks that he is still fit for work and that he has been unnecessarily removed on the frivolous cause of his being medically unfit he should be given a chance of obtaining a medical certificate from a different competent doctor who is free from the influence of the employers.

Lastly the question of housing facilities was taken. He said that this has been well represented before Mr. Nathan. The mining employers have announced that a scheme is being persued for the provision of housing facilities for the labourers. In this respect the Government and the employers are requested to look to the comforts of the labourers. Competent engineers should be consulted in this matter. Models of houses which would be constructed for the labourers should be shown to the labourers and then the construction of houses should be undertaken only after the approval of the labourers e.g., The houses to be constructed may be like the houses contructed by the Madras corporation. The houses must be suitable to the extremes of climate and should be sufficiently accomodati

He then said that he spoke about all these things before the Law Minister Mr. A.V.Ramanathan who was kind enough to hear him patiently. He hoped that Mr. A.V.Ramanathan would do his best to the labourers. He further stated that he also represented before the Law Minister, A.V. Ramanathan that the recommendations of Nathan should be published soon and that the labourers should be allowed have their choice in electing the members to the unions to the representative assembly and the legislature. He met Mr. K.Chengalraya Reddy at Bangalore and had told every thing about K.G.F. labourers. He gave a hint to labourers to elect him as the K.G.F. labour representative in the representative assembly. He informed the labourers that the Government had cancelled the notice serviced by

against him only in view of that.

He insisted upon the labourers to strengthen the union. Every one of the labourers should regularly subscribe every month and 100% of them should become the members of the union. The labourers need not doubt the accounts maintained by the union members The accounts would be checked and audited by the Government authorities.

He continued that if the Government wants a smooth administration it is necessary ~~it is necessary~~ to see that no lock-outs and strikes occur~~s~~. There has been an insistant clamour for the provisional legislation regarding the labour unions and the publication of Nathan's report. The Government will please understand that the ~~Government~~ voice of the people should be heard. And so to make things clear and to satisfy the labourers Government should pass rules and publish Nathan's report immediately. These matters should be considered as very urgent. He requested the Govt. to withdraw the orders against him and allow him into K.G.F. to guide the labourers and help the Governmen in smoothening matters.

He said that the Law Minister Mr. M.V.Ramanathan is entrusted with three items of work namely, Mines, Labour, and the police , in view of his vast experience and ability. It is certain that he would do justice to the post he occupies. He is a ~~god~~ God-fearing person and as such the labourers can have full confidence in him.

He said that he had been informed by telegram that his presence before the K.G.F.labourers was necessary and there had been disputes and differences among the labourers and that is why he had to go over to the place. He showed the labourers that it would be to their own ruin that trivial matters would be made much. The time is ripe. The labourers should

180

✓ 34 21

should know what to do at this juncture. They should be united and thus avail the best opportunities. They are going to get their union. Such petty quarrels and trivial matters could be settled through the unions and he could not settle the quarrels and such other internal disputes since he would be away from K.G.F. on account of the Government orders. He advised the labourers to forget and forgive each other for the sake of general good. Nothing which endangers the stability of the union should be allowed to find a place in the union.

He told that Indraraj of Mysore Mine had sent him a telegrame about this . Then he called him and advised him to apoligise before the gathering in the interest of the general good. He accordingly got up and tendered his appology and skook hands with one Kannyappa of Mysore Mine with whom he had differed in opinion.

So also one Venkatarayalu, survey cooly of Mysore Line got up and apoligised for having differed in the general opinion.

Mr. M.K.Sharma once again got up and regretted to announce that the office at Kuppam had been practically closed. Because many of the mine out labourers who were running of the office were permitted by the Government to enter K.G.F. That was enough for them. They have forgotten every thing about the union. That should not be the attitude the union should have an office and it should run sucessfully. So, he requested, that the labourers should evince some more interest and put forth their efforts in the complete establishment of the union.

He lastly announced to the gathering that he has requested the Government to get decent buildings

1346

for the union officers. He said that within the course of 5 years there would be decent union officers with good libraries and reading rooms. He continued that the Government would realise the value of a labour college to educate the labourers and thus raise the standard of the labourers in their knowledge of labour and labour problems.

Lastly Nayappan school master of Gorgaum got up and said that the time for their trial has come. And at this movement they should unite and act forgetting trivial differences and ignoring trivial disputes. He thanked P.R.K.Sharma having readily responded to the call of the labourers.

The following resolutions were passed:-

1) The Government is requested to restore the mine out labourers to their respective jobs.

2) The Government is requested to pass a provisional statutory legislation regarding the labour unions immediately.

3) The Government is requested to publish the report of Mr. K.Lathan soon.

And the last one (4) that the orders against P.R.K.Sharma must be cancelled was added by one Gnanamani of Champion Reefs after a song called "BHARATHA SAMUDAYAM" sung by P.R.K.Sarma. The meeting terminated at 6-30 P.M. P.R.K.Sharma, M.Lakshmana Mudaliar and Shanmugam went to the Ramasamudram Railway station. All others returned to K.G.F.

dated 17-8-41

Sd/--S.KARIYAPPA,
S.I.S.B.

"Copy"
Superintendent
Special Superintendent
20/8 Kolar Gold Fields.

"Copy"
S. Narayan
Debate Commer
Kolar
dt. 20/8/41

D. O. No. 5/41-42/S.B.
Encl. (11)

E. G. B. PEEL, Esq., C.I.E.,
Inspector-General of Police
in Mysore.

OFFICE OF THE
MINISTER FOR LAW
AUG 21 1941
No. 1738

531/348

BANGALORE
August 19, 1941.

My dear Kesavaiengar,

I enclose for the information of Government a copy of a report No. C.C.20/41-42 dated August 18, 1941, received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, regarding the Proceedings of a public meeting held by the Kolar Gold Fields labourers on -- 17-8-1941.

Yours
PEEL

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secy. to the Govt. of His Highness
The Maharaja of Mysore.

MSM.

1350

N. PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police,

Champion Reefs
Dated 18th August 1941.

CC.20/41-42

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous report I beg to state that A.T.Lakshmana Mudaliar and one Ramachandraraji, a congressite, came to Champion Reefs at 7.P.M. on 16-8-41 and visited a house in Andersonpet which is taken over to locate the office of the Labour union. At about 6.P.M. all the committee members of all the mines met them and remained with them till 9.P.M. It is ascertained that Mr. Ramachandraraji is taking charge of the account books, and cash belonging to the Union and that steps will be taken to get the accounts auditted and to deposit the money in the Mysore Bank in the name of the union The Committee members were also informed that Mr. P.R.K.Sharma would be going over to Bowringpet on 17-8-41 and consequently they all went to Bowringpet by the morning train. Mr. Sharma and Shanmugam arrived there from Madras side. About 75 coolies also joined them near the cigarette factory of Mr. Ramalingam Chetty Bowringpet where Messrs. Ramachandraraji and Sharma addressed the gathering explaining to them the various respects of the labourer Act and advised them to take steps to start the unions and to select the office bearers. Mr. Sharma also referred to the notice issued by Mr. Morrison and said that it clearly shows that the capitalists are not hindering the coolies to form Unions. After the meeting Messrs. Ramachandraraji&T.L.Ac Achariya who had also joined them at Bowringpet left for K.G.F. while Mr. Sharma, Shanmugam and the gathering left for Kamasamudram where they had arranged for a metting.

The meeting at Kamasamudram commenced at 2-45 with a gathering of about 800 labourers under a mango tree. Messrs. P.R.K.Sharma . Indrarai. Venkata

Venkatarajulu, Perumal and Rayappan spoke in Tamil Mr. P.R.K.Sharma while speaking took out a copy of notice issued by the Superintendent of Nandydroog mine and explained to the labourers in detail the points noted therein. He also said that he had discussed on all aspects with the Law Minister and has requested him to publish Mr. Mathan's report. He told them that he came on receipt of wire about some split among them and appealed to them to give up their petty quarrels and join together to start the union immediately. He further told them that he had met Mr. Chengalraya Reddy at Bangalore and hinted that they should elect him as their representative. Finally some resolutions were passed and the meeting terminated at 6.P.M. Copies of reports received about the proceedings of the meetings are enclosed for kind perusal.

It is reported that Mr. Chengalraya Reddy has arrived at Oorgaum with his wife and children today at 12.45 P.M. by train and that he went to Robertsonpet. His movements are being watched.

It is also reported that while returning from the meeting at Appepally Perumal of "I"block and Doraraj followed by about 50 boys went through the machine block of Champion Reefs and the house of contractors, Murahari, Chinnappa and K.S.Muniswamy crying "Mahathma Gandhiki Jai","Bharthmataki Jai, V.V.Giriki Jai, and Sharmaki Jai etc."

This day morning Mahimanathan, one of the committee members of the Champion Reefs labour union went with a cooly to one Bangi Raj,a writer under a contractor Mr. Madalai Muthu of Champion Reefs as the cooly had been dismissed by the contractor for bad conduct and asked the writer as to why the cooly had been dismissed. The writer told him about the bad conduct of the cooly and asked him whether such things would be encouraged by the Sangam. Mahimanathan then took

then took back the cooly stating that he would speak before the Sangham about it.

Yours sincerely,

SD/- N.PUTTARANGASWAMY,

S.NARAYANA RAO,ESQ., M.A.,(Hon),
Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District, K o l a r.

Copy forwarded with compliments to U.K.Somappa,Esq,B
Special Branch, in Mysore, Bangalore.

Spl.Superintendent of Police
Kolar Gold Fields

VNR/-

18/8

Submitted

Beg to submit that the below noted gentlemen arrived at Bowringpet this day morning, and were at Mr. Ramalingam Chetty's Cigarette factory near Bowringpet Municipal High School where about 75 mining employees of K.G.F. mines were present to hear the prominent of the visitors, viz., Ramachandraraji of Bangalore and Sharma of Madras. Messrs. Ramachandraraji and T.L.A. Acharya of Bangalore came from K.G.F. to Bowringpet by the 3-45 a.m. train this day. Messrs. Sharma of Madras and Shanmugam of Kuppam arrived from Madras by the morning passenger and from Kuppam yesterday evening respectively.

Messrs. Ramachandraraji and Sharma addressed the gathering in tamil explaining to them of the various aspects of the recently published Mysore Labour Act and appealed to the employees to forget their past grievances and take peaceful steps to have unions established at an early date. They also advised the gathering to take much pains and to see that the benifits now given by the Mysore Government by passing the Labour Act are fully availed of by their mutual co-operations.

Mr. Sharma concluded by saying that they must start their work very early by selecting presidents, secretaries and treasurers for the unions and bring the union into working. He also touched about the recently published notice by Mr. Morrison of Nandydroog Mines and said that Mr. Morrison's very act is clear that the capitalists are in no way a hindrance for the formation of unions by the employees.

The address commenced at about 9-15 A.M. and closed by 11.A.M.

Messrs. Ramachandraraji and T.L.A.Achariya left for K.G.F. by the 12'o clock train while Messrs Sharma and Shanmugam and most of the gathering of employees left to Kamasamudram by the 12'o clock passenger where it is said Mr. Sharma would be addressing a gathering of Mining employees expected to gather there.

186

358

Of the employees present at the meeting the following were said to be the representatives of the various mines. (1) Mahimanathan of Champion Reefs (2) M.Doraraj of Nandydroog (3) Rayappan of Oorgaum (4) Kanniyappan of Mysore Mine, one A.T.Lakshmana Mudaliar was also present. Those that went to Oorgaum were pointed out to the Jamedar of Oorgaum station who was also travelling to Oorgaum in the same train and telephone communication made to Kamasamudram police about Mr. Sharma's departure to that place

Sd/-Govinda Pannikar
Dfr. No. 28 of Cl station
Bowringpet.

* * *

Copy
Subversive
Spl Supt of Police
24/8/8

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF K.G.F. LABOURERS ON 17-8-41 NEAR APPEPALLY IN KAMASAMUDRAM STATION LIMITS

* * *

The meeting commenced at 2-45P.M. The gathering was about 800 . The meeting was held under a mango tree near Appepally. Messrs. P.R.K.Sharma , A.T.Lakshmana Mudaliar, Shanmugam and other mine-out labourers were present. Messrs P.R.K.Sharma , Indraraj, Venkatarajulu Perumal of "I" Block Champion Reefs and Rayappan spoke The speeches were in Tamil. The gathering of labourers appreciated the speeches.

Mr. P.R.K.Sharma spoke first. He said that all over the world there are labour unions. The labourers in those industrial centres did not get their labour unions quite easily. They educated themselves in matters connected with Trade Unions etc., and fought for the unions . And after undergoing all sorts of ordeals and after surmounting all the difficulties they were able to secure labour unions. Now they are enjoying the benefits of the labour unions. Likewise the labourers of K.G.F. strived hard in getting the labour union. Their perseverence and unity among themselves were responsible to get their labour union. The labourers should bear in their minds the hardships they underwent are nothing before the difficulties and dangers they have got to face hereafter.

It is certain that the unions are going to be established in K.G.F. very shortly . The Government has been kind enough to recognize those unions under statutory provisions. While talking about this Mr.P.R.K.Sharma took out the notice issued by the Nandydroog Mine Superintendent Mr. Marrison. He read it out to the gathering and explained it by taking one item after another.

First he took the item about the labour unions. He thanked the mining authorities for their being liberal. He said that the Government has taken wise steps

wisesteps in putting an end to the periodical disputes between the labourers and the capitalists. But he requeste the Government to pass a legislation which recognizes and protects the labour unions. He advised the labourers to make the best use of the labour unions given to them. They should not lend their ears to any body who tries to bring in a split in the union.

Next he explained the second item " Attendence bonus" this attendence bonus is increased by one rupee and the labourers should thank the employers for their being generous. But this attendence bonus is hedged in by all sorts of conditions. For instance a labourer who absents himself due to unavoidable reasons will not get this bonus. And so he requested the employers not to impose such conditions and grant it to the absentees if their absence was due to certified illness or accident.

The leave question was then taken by him. A certai amount of leave is quite essential for a labourer. It is a right of the labourers to avail leave to recup his energ As such the mining employers are requested to look to this question and well define their terms regarding leave.

thanked the mining employers for their generosity in granting Rs.6/- towards the working dress to the laboure Service Gratuity:- The notice regarding the service money is very vague. It should be remembered that this was one of the causes of the strike last year. An amount of Rs.25/- is given to a labourer for a service of 10 years. Even then the employers are not willing to part with it. They want that the labourers should have a clean service and should have goo conduct through out. The employers are requested to unde stand that service money is the right established by the labourers. It is even adviceable to grant it to the labourers if he wants to go away from work at his own wil If such things are rectified smooth work will be ensured the management will be an easy task.

Medical reports:- Labourers who would be discharged from work due to medical unfitness, must obtain a copy of the medical report. If the labourer thinks that he is still fit for work and that he has been unnecessaril removed on the frivolous cause of his being medically unfit he should be given a chance of obtaining a medical certificate from a different competent doctor who is free from the influence of the employers.

Lastly the question of housing fecilities was taken. He said that this has been well represented before Mr. Mathan. The mining employers have announced that a scheme is being persued for the provision of housing facilities for the labourers. In this respect the Government and the employers are requested to look to the comforts of the labourers. Competent engineers should be consulted in this matter. Models of houses which would be constructed for the labourers should be shown to the labourers and then the construction of houses should be undertaken only after the approval of the labourers e.g., The houses to be constructed may be like the houses contructed by the Madras corporation. The houses must be suitable to the extremes of climate and should be sufficiently accomodative

He then said that he spoke about all these things before the Law Minister Mr. A.V.Ramanathan who was kind enough to hear him patiently. He hoped that Mr. A.V.Ramanathan would do his best to the labourers. He further stated that he also represented before the Law Minister, A.V. Ramanathan that the recommendations of Mathan should be published soon and that the labourers should be allowed to have their choice in electing the members to the unions and to the representative assemply and the legistature. He had met Mr. K.Chengalraya Reddy at Bangalore and had told him every thing about K.G.F. labourers. He gave a hint to the labourers to elect him as the K.G.F. labour representative in the representative assembly. He informed the labourers that the Government had cancelled the notice served against

366

against him only in view of that.

He insisted upon the labourers to strenghthen the union. Every one of the labourers should regularly subscribe every month and 100% of them should become the members of the union. The labourers need not doubt the accounts maintained by the union members. The accounts would be checked and audited by the Government authorities.

He continued that if the Government wants a smoot administration it is necessary ~~it is necessary~~ to see that no lock-outs and strikes occur. There has been an insistant clamour for the provisional legislation regarding the labour unions and the publication of Mathan's report. The Government will please understan that the ~~Government will~~ voice of the people should be heard. And so to make things clear and to satisfy the labourers Government should pass rules and publish Mathan's report immediately. These matters should be considered as very urgent. He requested the Govt. to withdraw the orders against him and allow him into K.G.F. to guide the labourers and help the Government in smoothening matters.

He said that the Law Minister Mr. A.V.Ramanathan is entrusted with three items of work namely, Mines, Labour, and the police , in view of his vast experienc and ability. It is certain that he would do justice to the post he occupies. He is a God-fearing person and as such the labourers can have full confidence in him.

He said that he had been informed by telegram that his presence before the K.G.F.labourers was necesary and there had been disputes and differences among the labourers and that is why he had to go over to the place. He showed the labourers that it would be to their own ruin that trivial matters would be made much. The time is ripe. The labourers should

should know what to do at this juncture. They should be united and thus avail the best opportunites. They are going to get their union. Such petty quarrels and trivial matters could be settled through the unions and he could not settle the quarrels and such other internal disputes since he would be away from K.G.F. on account of the Government orders. He advised the labourers to forget and forgive each other for the sake of general good. Nothing which endangers the stability of the union should be allowed to find a place in the union.

He told that Indraraj of Mysore Mine had sent him a telegrame about this . Then he called him and advised him to apoligise before the gathering in the interest of the general good. He accordingly got up and tendered his appology and skook hands with one Kannyappa of Mysore Mine with whom he had differed in opinion.

So also one Venkatarayalu, survey cooly of Mysore Mine got up and apoligised for having differed in the general opinion.

Mr. P.R.K.Sharma once again got up and regretted to announce that the office at Kuppam had been practically closed. Because many of the mine out labourers who were running the office were permitted by the Government to enter K.G.F. That was enough for them. They have forgotten every thing about the union. That should not be the attitude. The union should have an office and it should run sucessfully. So he requested, that the labourers should evince some more interest and put forth their efforts in the complete establishment of the union.

He lastly announced to the gathering that he has requested the Government to get decent building

370

for the union officers. He said that within the course of 5 years there would be decent union offices with good libraries and reading rooms. He continued that the Government would realise the value of a labour college to educate the labourers and thus raise the standard of the labourers in their knowledge of labour and labour problems.

Lastly Rayappan school master of Oorgaum got up and said that the time for their trial has come. And at this movement they should unite and act forgetting trivial differences and ignoring trivial disputes. He thanked P.R.K.Sharma having readily responded to the call of the labourers.

The following resolutions were passed:-

1) The Government is requested to restore the mine out labourers to their respective jobs.

2) The Government is requested to pass a provisiona statutory legislation regarding the labour unions immediately.

3) The Government is requested to publish the repor of Mr. K.Mathan soon.

And the last one (4) that the orders against P.R.K.Sharma must be cancelled was added by one Gnanaman of Champion Reefs after a song called "BHARATHA SAMUDAYA sung by P.R.K.Sarma. The meeting terminated at 6-30 P.M. P.R.K.Sharma, A.T.Lakshmana Mudaliar and Shanmugam went to the Kamasamudram Railway station . All others returne to K.G.F.

dated 18-8-41

Sd/--S.KARIYAPPA,
S.I.S.B.

"Copy"

Special Superintendent of Police
Kolar Gold Fields.
18/8/8

534 372

Mr. M. SESHADRI, M.A.,
Deputy Commissioner.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE,
BANGALORE.

Dated ....20th August,.... 1941.

D. O. CC. 2/41-42.
Enc: One.

OFFICE OF THE
MINISTER FOR LAW
AUG 21 1941
No. 1761

Subd
(Law Minister) 21/8/41

Dear Mr. Kesavaiengar,

I am sending herewith for favour of perusal, the report No. CC.25/41-42, received from the City Superintendent of Police just now about the activities of Mr. P.R.K. Sarma of Madras, who is reported to have arrived from Madras on the 18th instant.

(Dy. Secy.)

Yours sincerely,

22/8/41

M Seshadri

TASEVAPRASAKTA
B. T. Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Mysore,
Bangalore.

374

WD 06996—GPB—20,000—20-6-40

Form No. 24]

MYSORE POLICE DEPARTMENT.

In reply, please quote number, date and short title.*

Received.....*Registered*.....

From (Name) M. WYNNE, ESQUIRE.,

(Designation). Superintendent of Police,

Post Box....., (STATION) .....Bangalore City.

Telegraphic Address.....

SECRET.

To

The Deputy Commissioner,

Bangalore District, Bangalore.

No. 27 dated August 20, 1941.

SIR,

ENCLOSURES.....

.....

.....

SPARE COPIES.....

I have the honour to state that it is reported that Mr.P.R.K.Sarma arrived from Madras on the 18th instant and was put up with Mr.T.Ramachandra in the Labour Colony. He seems to have had discussion with Mr.K.T.Bashyam along with T.L.A.Acharya. Himself, Messrs.Acharya, T.Ramachandra and P.R.K.Sarma desire to be Presidents of the Four Kolar Gold Fields Associations. Mr.Bashyam seems to have told them that he is not for backing up any person who is not a Memb of the Mysore Congress. Hence the above persons on expressing their willingness to become members of the Mysore Congress, Mr.Bashyam expressed ~~this~~ his willin ness for their candidatures.

They told me that they are against officials (workmen) running labour associations

21/8

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

Superintendent of Police,
Bangalore City.

WG
22/8

194

D. O. No. /41-42/Peel

E. G. B. PEEL, Esq., C.I.E.,
Inspector-General of Police
in Mysore.

5-45 / CB 376

BANGALORE

August 21, 1941.

My dear Kesavaiengar,

I enclose for the information of Government a copy of a letter dated 20th August 41 eceived from the Special Superintendent of olice, Kolar Gold Fields, regarding the acitivities of labourers in Kolar Gold Fields.

Yours

Law Minister

22/8/41

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR LAW
AUG 22 1941
No 1776

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secy. to the Govt. of Mysore
Bangalore.

195

[illegible]

[illegible] Secretary,
[illegible] Department of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Sutherland 41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my letter of [illegible], I wish to inform you that it is understood that as a result of the interview of some of the labourers citizens, [illegible] Lakshmanan, P.A. [illegible] and Lakshmanan, Esq., they have come to a decision that there should be some unity among the labour union and it is also announced that [illegible] Lakshmanan is selected President of the union and that, [illegible] the president for the union of Champion Reefs, Mr. [illegible] Secretary and the Asst. of [illegible] and Mr. [illegible] for the union of [illegible] the end that the other office bearers should be the [illegible]; it is also understood that the salary of [illegible] should be fixed at Rs.1[illegible]/- per month; it is also said that there is an [illegible] social service body for all these unions to coordinate the activities of all the [illegible] on the [illegible].

[illegible] located [illegible].

[illegible] Champion [illegible] has been reported particularly [illegible] to Mellon [illegible] has come back to [illegible]; it is intended [illegible] notice under section 17 [illegible] last in the [illegible] November 1940 and [illegible] we are never sure to [illegible] there [illegible] of livelihood [illegible] come back [illegible] all manner of the [illegible] the labour [illegible] of the formation of the union. [illegible] and Lakshmanan [illegible] the communist party [illegible] influence of [illegible] probability of suppression [illegible] against whom

SECRET

). O. No. 5/41-42/SB. Encl. 1.

382

E. G. B. PEEL, Esq., C.I.E.,
Inspector-General of Police
in Mysore.

BANGALORE
August 22, 1941.

My dear Kesavaiengar

I enclose for the information of Government a copy of a report No. C.C.20/40-41 dated August 21, 1941 received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, regarding the activities of the labourers in Kolar Gold Fields.

Yours sincerely
E G B Peel

Subd

Law Minister) 23/8/41

Dewan) 23/8

23/8/41

Dy. Secy.) 27/8/41

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secy. to the Govt. of Mysore,
Bangalore.

128

TARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 21st August 1941.

/40-41.

384

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports, I beg to state that it is reported that this day morning the Company and Contractors' coolies about 300 in number refused to receive their advance of pay, as they did not get increments. The members of the Committee of the Champion Reef labourers advised them to take their pay stating that the question would be settled through the Labour Union. Then they all took their pay.

It is also reported that one Rayappan Headmaster, Champion Reef Catholic School is negotiating to take a room in the Upstairs of Narayanaswamy's buildings at Robertsonpet at a monthly rent of Rs.12/-. They are intending to open the Oorgaum Labour Union Office on the 24th instant and inviting Mr. Sharma to open the Office in case the notice against him is cancelled before that date.

Yours sincerely,
SD/- N. PUTTARANGASWAMY,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,(Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

NR/-

Copies in duplicate, forwarded with compliments, to the Superintendent of Police, Special Branch in Mysore, Bangalore.

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

No.C.C.27/40-41. Office of the Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.
Encl. One. Dated, Kolar the 24th day of August 1941.

From

S. Narayana Rao, Esq., M.A.(Hons.).,
Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

To

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesaviengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to Government of
H.H. the Maharaja of Mysore, Bangalore.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith a copy of D.O. letter No.C.C.20/40-41, dated 21st August 1941, received from the Special Superintendent of Police, K.G.F., re. the Labour situation on the Fields, for information.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

Subd
115
25/8/41
Law Minister)
26/8
115
27/8

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
(incharge),
KOLAR DISTRICT.

. ●URAVANNAMAY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
pl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 21st August 1941.

CC.20/40-41.

588

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports, I beg to state that it is reported that this day morning the Company and Contractors' coolies about 300 in number refused to receive their advance of pay, as they did not get increments. The members of the Champion G Committee of the Champion Reef labourers advised them to take their pay stating that the question would be settled through the Labour Union. Then they all took their pay.

It is also reported that one Malayalam Headmaster, Champion Reef Catholic School is negotiating to take a room in the upstairs of Narayanasamy's buildings at Robertsonpet at a monthly rent of Rs.12/-. They are intending to open the Kergaum Labour Union Office on the 24th instant and inviting Mr. Sharma to open the office in case the notice against him is cancelled before that date.

Yours sincerely,

O P Narayanasamy

S. LAKSHMANA RAO, ESQ., B.A.,(Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

R/-

"Copy"

Kolar.
24/8/41.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER(INCHARGE),
KOLAR DISTRICT, KOLAR.

390

D 563

CS

No.C.C.27/40-41.
Encls. Four 5

Office of the Deputy Commissio
Kolar District.
Dated, Kolar the 25th day of August

From

J.B. Mallaradhya, Esq., M.A.,
Deputy Commissioner (in charge),
Kolar District, K o l a r.

To

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesaviengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore, Bangalore.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith, for information, co of D. O. letters Nos.C.C.20/40.41, dated 23rd and 24th August, 1 together with copies of their enclosures, received from the Spec Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, regarding the Lab situation at the place.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

Subd
27.8.41

Law minister)

27/8
28/8

OFFICE OF THE
MINISTER FOR LAW
AUG 27 1941
No 189

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
(IN CHARGE),
KOLAR DISTRICT.

N. PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 25th August 1941.

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports, I beg to state that on the 24th instant Indraraj, a Committee member of Marikuppam mines accompanied by Arokiaswamy and 2 or 3 others announced at Marikuppam Cooly lines by beat of tom tom that the Undesirable Notice issued against Mr. P...K. Sharma was cancelled and that he is expected at K.G.F. Shortly. After announcing at Marikuppam they went to Champion Reef but were stopped by Ratnam, K.D. Raju, Dorai and Bhagyanadan, Committee members of Champion Reef Union stating that without their knowledge and consultation they should not announce such things. Ratnam referred to the speec of Ramalingam at the meeting near the Robertsonpet Travellers' Bungalow that Mr. P.R.K. Sharma should not be treated as their leader and asked Indraraj who was also present at the meeting then as to why he did not take any objection to the references against Mr. Sharma by Ramalingam. Ratnam and others threatened Indraraj and others that they would be beaten if announcement by beat of tom tom is continued when all of them went away.

It is reported that from confidential enquiries made the strike by the coolies of the Binny Mills has no effect on the coolies of this place and no excitement or sympathy could be noticed here. Mr. Chengalrai Reddy is stated to have gone to Bangalore and A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar has suddenly left K.G.F. and gone away either to Madras or Kuppam.

Yours sincerely,

S. RAMAYYA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,(Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

NR/-

. PUTTARANGASWAMY, Esq., B.Sc.,
pl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 24th August 1941.

CC.20/40-41.

394

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports, I beg to state that at about 7 p.m. on 23-8-41 there was a meeting in the open space between Mills Tank and Panchayet Court, Marikuppam with a gathering of about 60 or 70 labourers. One of them who could not be identified in the dark got up and advised the labourers to give up their differences and throw the entire responsibility on Mr. P.M.K. Sharma who had taken so much trouble for them. He also suggested that they should make arrangements to bring him in procession here, since orders under section 17 D.M. Act against him have been cancelled. After some murmur about contributing subscription for this amongst the audience it was settled that they should take him in procession on Sunday the 31st instant and Abraham should go to Madras to convey news to Sri P.M.K. Sharma.

The meeting quietly dispersed after half an hour and at the end the speaker cried out that everything would be announced through notice. Indiaraj, Rangadharan and Venkatarajulu of Mysore Mines were said to be there then.

A copy of the English translation of the proceedings is enclosed herewith.

Yours sincerely,

O.Puttaranga

D. RAMAMA RAO, M.Sc., M.A.(Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

NC/-

"COPY"

25/8/41.

Soma Lara Rao

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER (INCHARGE),
KOLAR DISTRICT.

204

U.B. [illegible] 3rd AUGUST 1941.

MINUTES.

Beg to state that there was a small gathering at the open space between mills Quad and Panchayet Court at 7 p.m. on [illegible]. There were about 60 or 70 labourers assembled there. It was 7 p.m. There was no light. It was dark. One labourer got up and said that it is not the time for them to have a great among themselves and that they should throw the entire responsibility upon Sri [illegible] Sharma, their leader as they have done before. It was no use of getting dis-satisfaction because one in [illegible] all the four [illegible] was not granted. It was not proper on their part to throw down Sri [illegible] Sharma who had struggled for them to a very great extent. In order to show their gratitude they should take Sri Sharma in procession from Budugur mill area where they were holding meetings.

(Even when this speaker was talking Abraham of Omala [illegible] Block, Jaero mines, got up and said that he went to the Detective Inspector and he told him that Prohibitory Order against Sharma was cancelled and he sat down).

The first speaker continued his speech. He said that all the labourers should contribute some money to the elders arrangements to bring Sri Sharma in procession.

(There was no confusion here. Everybody began to [illegible] about [illegible] Sri I difficulty)

Then the speaker said that the labourers should contribute any amount that each may think fit to contribute.

(Then they were satisfied).

The day was fixed as next Sunday the 3rd August for bringing their leader. The procession should start from Budugur corner. This should be intimated to all the [illegible] mines. Abraham should be immediately sent to [illegible] to convey this news to Sri [illegible] Sharma and the contribution should begin from this day only.

(At this stage there was a question from the audience as to why the [illegible] members should not take some [illegible] from the fund and then make it up from the contributions later. There was confusion. The meeting automatically dispersed without a breach of the peace).

398

In the end the speaker cried out that everything will be announced to them through me.

SD/- M. [illegible]

" COPY "

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
SD/- Kolar Gold Fields.

"Copy"

25/8/41.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER (INCHARGE),
KOLAR DISTRICT.

H. PUTTAMANNAIYAH, Esq., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 23rd August 1941.

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

I beg to report that yesterday the notice issued against Mr. P.R.K. Sharma under Sec. 17 M.M. Act was cancelled by me as it was considered unnecessary any longer to restrict him from coming to K.G.F. Ramalingam ex-School Master of Champion Reef was served with the notice under Sec.17 M.M. Act. After the notice was served on him he got into touch with Parasuram of Mysore mine and they with some coolies went to the Jerky ground near Robertsonpet Travellers' Bungalow and convened a meeting. About 800 people assembled and a copy of the proceedings of the meeting is enclosed. It is significant that none of the active members of the Committee constituted for each mine by the existing Labour Union attended the meeting. It is also significant that Lakshmana Mudaliar who is a close follower of Ramalingam did not also attend the meeting and that most of the people that gathered were from Mysore mine, the rest being passers-by, that joined them on seeing the crowd. It is evident from the speech of Ramalingam that he is opposed to Mr. P.R.K. Sharma and that he wants only one Union on the Field. There is no doubt that he would have worked against the formation of the Unions under the new Legislation, if he had been allowed to remain on the fields. Lakshmana Mudaliar also shares the same views but he was probably afraid to participate in the meeting as a notice under Section 17 M.M. Act was served on Ramalingam. Both of them have got communistic sympathies and it is very significant that a Red Flag bearing the emblem of Sickle and Hammer had been held throughout the meeting.

2/8

I had a talk with Mr. Venkatarama Reddy who is the brother of Mr. Chengalraya Reddy yesterday and ascertained from him that Mr. Chengalraya Reddy has now come to Kyasamballa to permanently settle down there. He was reluctant to say definitely that he is trying to become the President of one of the Labour Unions in K.G.F. but said that the labourers are approaching him in the matter and that he may agree to become the President of one of the Unions.

I have to-day cancelled the notices under Section 17 M.M. Act issued in November 1940 against Doraswamy and Abraham as they have also given the undertaking not to participate in any objectionable activities and nothing objectionable was noticed against them during their stay in K.G.F. for the last fortnight with permission.

It is also reported that the Surface coolies of Champion Reef mine approached the Superintendent of the mine for increment of pay and the Superintendent seems to have replied that he would consider favourably after consulting the Superintendents of the other mines. Then they all received their pay and went to work as usual.

Yours sincerely,

C. Dutt

C. DUTTAMA RAO, M.A., M.A., (Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

"COPY"

25/8/41.

Somalcara

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER (IN CHARGE
KOLAR DISTT.

Proceedings of the meeting held to-day at about 6.15 p.m. at JERKY GROUNDS by the side of the Travellers' Bungalow.

***

About 400 labourers came in a body from Champion Reefs, passed through the Perry lines and came near the Jerky Grounds. They were found carrying red flags with Sickle and Axe and V. Ramalingam Ex-Head Master with a garland round his neck led the labourers to the Jerky ground, where they sat and heard the speakers. By the time the 400 labourers came to the Jerky grounds passers by, unemployees and labourers about 800 in number joined the procession and came and sat in the Jerky grounds. They were shouting Labour Union Ki-Jai, V. Ramalingam-Ki-Jai all along their way.

Parasuram of Mysore mines spoke first. He stated that they had congregated there not to represent their grievances to the Government or to the Labour Union or to the mining authorities for enhancing their wages but they had assembled there to cry a halt to the nepotic atrocious and autocratic power vested in Sec. 17 of the M.M. Act. He continued that one of the other leaders who was in the audience had to pay the toll of Section 17 M.M. Act. It was for that purpose that they had assembled there. He continued by telling them that the Mysore Government had assured them that they will not invoke Section 17 M.M. Act in any other case and thus they had pacified the labourers during the strike. Believing that the Government will not enforce any more the quit notices the speaker continued, the labourers strictly adhered to the policy of non-violence even during the long period of the strike of 28 days when they starved for want of food. But if they had only been aware that the Government would take up this view, they would have done wonders in the last long strike. He continued by telling "My brave young

 466

brothern, Time has come when you will have to stand up and show the metal you are made of. It is time that you should show courage and might and fight against this unjustifiable order. What Justice had Pandit V. Ramalingam done to the Government or to the mining authorities. It is sheer injustice on the part of the Government for having issued notice against Pandit V. Ramalingam.". He questioned them "Are you prepared to tread down Section 17 M.M. Act". The audience cried in one voice and said 'YES'. We are prepared".

V. Ramalingam spoke next. Holding the notice in his hand, he began by addressing the audience that he came to K.G.F. on Friday from Vellore but the Police had sent word to him to the Police Station this morning, and issued him the notice. "The only fault I have committed is that during the 28 days strike, accompanied by Lakshmana Mudaliar, I met Mr. Sharma and ventilated to him all your grievances". Barring the aforesaid fault, he added, that he had not committed any sins. He continued that if the audience felt that the Government were justified in passing such an order against him, he appealed to the audience to keep quiet, but if the labourers felt that the order was unjustly promulgated against him, it was up to them to get up and fight against the order. What I have suffered to-day, you will all have to suffer to-morrow. He continued that he is leaving to Vellore by to-morrow 11-30 train. He added that he cannot go to Kuppam since Kuppam Police had already told him that he can't do any propoganda work at Kuppam. After meeting Sharma, he continued that he will write everything in newspapers about his interview with Sharma". I will subscribe to every paper about the order of the Mysore Government which on the face of it is without reason or justice". He appealed to them to read his articles

210

that will from time to time appear in papers and to follow whatever he writes. He continued that he will also interview Mr. V.V. Giri after the latter's release from Jail and will also take his advice regarding the next move he has to take against such unjustifiable ord re of the Government. It is true we are getting four labour unions, one union for each mine, but what would be the use and power of th labour union when the Government had such immense autocratic power to ask an innocent man to walk out within 24 hours from the mines. I am afraid, he continued, that the new labour unions will function nominally without any use to the labourers. If one labour union member talks to another labour union member or if two labour union members sit conjointly and discuss matters, they will be suitably fined by the Government as well as imprisoned. After the formation of the Labour Unions, they will have to settle within themselves whatever grievances they have but now, he added, i.e, before the formation of the four labour union, we are more independant. He continued that at present, before the coming in of the union if any man spoke or did anything, he had to suffer or enjoy for it individually. But after the formation and recognition of the labour union, the union will have to suffer and in consequence all the labourers will have to suffer fo it. Knowing the evil consequences and the result of such independent four labour unions, the speaker said that he failed to realise how a sane man like Sharma agreed to the formation of a labour union for each mine. He questioned the audience if Sharma or any other leader had taken the consent of all the labourers for the formation of the Labour Union. They cried in one voice that they had not given

their consent and some of them shouted that they wanted only one Union for all the labourers. He told them that he read in the Daily Post that K.T. Bhashyam had written that P.R.K. Sharma had sacrificed the lives of 27,000 labourers of K.G.F. for the latter having agreed to the proposal of the Government to form Labour Unions.

He appealed to the audience in conclusion to remain united and watch his contributions in the paper and to follow his advice through journals and papers.

The gathering dispersed at about 7.20 p.m. with cries of Jai to Labour Union and V.V. Giri.

Copy.

" COPY "

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

NR/-

23/8

"COPY"

25/8/41.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER (IN CHARGE
KOLAR DIST.

SECRET

D.O. No. 5/41-42/S.B.Encl:3

8593 412

E. G. B. PEEL, Esq., C.I.E.,
Inspector-General of Police
in Mysore.

BANGALORE

25th August 1941.

I enclose for the information of Government a copy of a report No. C.C.20/40-41 dated August 24, 1941, received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, regarding the proceedings of a public meeting held in Kolar Gold Fields on 23-8-1941.

AUG 28 1941
1916

Rajasevaprasakta
B. T. Kesaviengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to the Government of
His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore,
Bangalore.

14 14

TTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 24th August 1941.

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports, I beg to state that at about 7 p.m. on 23-8-41 there was a meeting in the open space between Mills Tank and Panchayet Court, Marikuppam with a gathering of about 60 or 70 labourers. One of them who could not be identified in the dark got up and advised the labourers to give up their differences and throw the entire responsibility on Mr. P.R.K. Sharma who had taken so much trouble for them. He also suggested that they should make arrangements to bring him in procession here, since orders under section 17 M.M. Act against him have been cancelled. After some murmer about contributing subscription for this amongst the audience it was settled that they should take him in procession on Sunday the 31st instant and Abraham should go to Madras to convey news to Sri P.R.K. Sharma.

The meeting quietly disbursed after half-an houf and at the end the speaker cried out that everything would be announced through notice. Indraraj, Gangadharan and Venkatarajalu of Mysore mines were said to be there then.

A copy of the English translation of the proceedings is enclosed herewith.

Yours sincerely,
SD/- N. PUTTARANGASWAMY,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.(Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

Copies in duplicate forwarded, with compliments, to the Superintendent of Police, Special Branch in Mysore, Bangalore..

214

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

2418

S.B. REPORT DATED 23rd AUGUST 1941.

SUBMITTED.

Beg to state that there was a small gathering at the open space between mills Tank and Panchayet Court at 7 p.m. on 23-8-4 There were about 60 or 70 labourers assembled there. It was 7 p.m. There was no light. It was dark. One labourer got up and said that this was not the time for them to have a split among themselves and that they should throw the entire responsiblity upon Sri P.R.K. Sharma, their leader as they had done before. It was no use of getting dis-satisfaction because one Union for all the four mines was not granted. It was not proper on their part to throw down Sri P.R.K. Sharma who had struggled for them to a very great extent. In order to show their gratitude they should take Sri Sharma in procession from Budugur Big Tree where they were holding meetings.

(Even when this speaker was talking Abraham of Chellappa Block, Mysore mines, got up and said that he went to see Detective Inspector and he told him that Prohibitory Order against Sharma was cancelled and he sat down).

The first speaker continued his speech. He said that all the labourers should contribute some money to make eloborate arrangements to bring Sri Sharma in procession.

(There was some confusion here. Everybody began to murmer about his financial difficulty)

Then the speaker said that the labourers could contribute any amount that each may think fit to contribute.

(Then all were satisfied).

The day was fixed as next Sunday the 31st August for bringing their leader. The procession should start from Rallabudugur border. This should be intimated to all the four mines. Abraham should be immediately sent to Madras to convey this news to Sri P.R.K. Sharma and the contribution should begin from this day only.

(At this stage there was a question from the audience as to why the Union members should not take some money from the Fund and then make it up from the contributions later. There was confusion. The meeting automatically dispersed without any breach of the peace).

In the end the speaker cried out that everything will be announced to them through notice.

SD/- R. RAMANUJAM.

***

" COPY "

24-8

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

NR/-

No 2418

216

SECRET

D. O. No. 5/41-42/SB.
Encls(2 E. reports)

E. G. B. PEEL, Esq., C.I.E.,
Inspector-General of Police
in Mysore.

D592 420

CS

BANGALORE

August 27, 1941.

My dear Kesavaiengar,

I enclose for the information of Government copies of reports No.CC.20/40-41 dated August 25th and 26th, 1941, received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, regarding the activities of the labourers in K.G.F.

Yours
E. G. B. Peel

AUG 28 1941
No. 1915

Subd

Law ministry

MS
28/8

28/8

Rajasevaprasakta
B. T. Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to the Govt. of
H.H.the Maharaja of Mysore, Bangalore.

217

N. PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 25th August 1941.

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports, I beg to state that on the 24th instant Indraraj, a Committee member of Marikuppam mines accompanied by Arokiaswamy and 2 or 3 others announced at Marikuppam Cooly lines by beat of tom tom that the Undesirable Notice issued against Mr. P.R.K. Sharma was cancelled and that he is expected at K.G.F. Shortly. After announcing at Marikuppam they went to Champion Reef but were stopped by Ratnam, K.D. Raju, Dorai and Bhagyanadan, Committee members of Champion Reef Union stating that without their knowledge and consultation they should not announce such things. Ratnam referred to the speech of Ramalingam at the meeting near the Robertsonpet Travellers' Bungalow that Mr. P.R.K. Sharma should not be treated as their leader and asked Indraraj who was also present at the meeting then as to why he did not take any objection to the references against Mr. Sharma by Ramalingam. Ratnam and other threatened Indraraj and others that they would be beaten if announcement by beat of tom tom is continued when all of them went away.

It is reported that from confidential enquiries made the strike by the coolies of the Binny Mills has no effect on the coolies of this place and no excitement or sympathy could be noticed here. Mr. Chengalrai Reddy is stated to have gone to Bangalore and A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar has suddenly left K.G.F. and gone away either to Madras or Kuppam.

Yours sincerely,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,(Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

218

1124

Copies in duplicate, forwarded with compliments, to the Superintendent of Police, Special Branch in Mysore, Bangalore.

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

NR/-

219

PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 26th August 1941.

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports, I beg to state that there was a gathering of about 80 or 90 labourers at 6.15 p.m. on 25-6-41 in Maddayyas building, Robertsonpet. Penangapani Mudaliar, Engineer, K.G.F. Electricity Department presided and Thavamani of the same Department spoke. He said that the Union Office was opened and the purpose of the meeting was to elect the Office-bearers so as to represent each Department in the Electrical Office by two members. Later, selection was made by votes and about 30 names were read out. Then Kuppuswami of the same Department spoke. He announced that a meeting on the 27th instant has been arranged to be held for making arrangements to welcome Sri P.R.K. Sharma to K.G.F. when only Office-bearers would be permitted to attend and that a General meeting will be arranged on the 31st instant when all could attend. The meeting closed at 8.15 p.m.

It is reported that on the 25th instant the picking floor coolies of Champion Reef mine about 200 in number who were working under Contractor Mr. Abdul Razack went to General Office, Champion Reef and presented a petition to Mr. G.V. Everett, Cynide Superintendent for increase of wages and bonus and also for grant of special wages for having worked overtime for which the Superintendent seems to have replied that he would consult the mining Superintendent and reply. The coolies wanted an immediate reply but the Superintendent asked them to wait for 5 days. The coolies then went away for work.

220 Mr. Chengalrai Reddy is reported to have visited K.G.F? on the 25th instant by 12-30 p.m. tra

1428

and to have returned to Kaysamballa the same evening by walk after a short stay in his brother's Venkatarama Reddy's house at Robertsonpet.

Yours sincerely,

SD/- N. PUTTARANGASWAMY,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,(Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

NR/-

Copies in duplicate, forwarded with compliments, to the Superintendent of Police, Special Branch in Mysore, Bangalore.

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

26/8

2618 430

No.C.C.27/40-41. Office of the Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.
Dated, Kolar the 27th day of August 1941.

Encl. One.

From.

S. Narayana Rao, Esq., M.A.(Hons.).,
Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

To

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesaviengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to Government of
H.H. the Maharaja of Mysore, Bangalore.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith a copy of D.O. letter No.C.C.20/40-41, dated 26th August 1941, received from the Special Superintendent of Police, K.G.F., re. the labour situation there, for information.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

S. Narayana Rao

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
KOLAR DISTRICT.

Submitted.

Law Minister
&
Dewan.

OFFICE OF THE
MINISTER FOR LAW
AUG 29 1941
No 1943

29/8

29/8

221

1/9/41

N. ALTIMANUSAMY, Esq., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 26th August 1941.

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports, I beg to state that there was a gathering of about 80 or 90 labourers at 6.15 p.m. on 25-8-41 in Vadamyya building, Robertsonpet. Ponnangapani Mudaliar, Engineer, K.G.F. Electricity Department presided and Thavamani of the same Department spoke. He said that the Union Office was opened and the purpose of the meeting was to elect the Office-bearers so as to represent each Department in the Electrical Office by two members. Later, selection was made by votes and about 30 names were read out. Then Kuppuswami of the same Department spoke. He announced that a meeting on the 27th instant has been arranged to be held for making arrangements to welcome Sri P.M.K. Sharma to K.G.F. when only Office-bearers would be permitted to attend and that a General meeting will be arranged on the 31st instant when all could attend. The meeting closed at 8.15 p.m.

It is reported that on the 26th instant the picking floor coolies of Champion Reef mine about 200 in number who were working under Contractor Mr. Abdul Razack went to General Office, Champion Reef and presented a petition to Mr. G.V. Everett, Cyanide Superintendent for increase of wages and bonus and also for grant of special wages for having worked overtime for which the Superintendent seems to have replied that he would consult the Mining Superintendent and reply. The coolies wanted an immediate reply but the Superintendent asked them to wait for 5 days. The coolies then went away for work.

222

Mr. Chengalrai Reddy is reported to have visited K.G.F. on the 25th instant by 12-30 p.m. train

and to have returned to Kaysamballa the same evening by walk after a short stay in his brother's Venkatarama Reddy's house at Robertsonpet.

Yours sincerely,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,(Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

NR/-

0630 4

No.C.C.27/40-41.

Encl. One.

Office of the Deputy Commissioner
Kolar Distt.
Dated, Kolar the 28th day of August 19

CHIEF SECRETARY
CB
30 AUG. 1941
GOVT. OF MYSORE.

From

S. Narayana Rao, Esq., M.A.(Hons.).,
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

To

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesaviengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to Government of
H.H. the Maharaja of Mysore, Bangalore.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith a copy of D.O. lett No.C.C.20/41-42 dated 27th August 1941, re. the labour situati at K.G.F., received from the Special Superintendent of Police, K.G.F., for information.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

S. Narayana Rao

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
KOLAR DISTRICT.

224

M.PUTTARANGAIS ARI,ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl.Superintendent of Police,

Champion Reefs,
Dated 27th August 1941.

C.No.20/41-42.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports I b
to state that this day morning about 40 surface
coolies of Champion Reefs Mine belonging to the
Engineering Department approached the Chief Eng
neer Mr. Fitz Patricks and demanded increment o
wages. The Chief Engineer seems to have replie
that they would check the roll call and give in
ment for 20 coolies ~~for~~ per day and that they need
worry them often in that matter, when all the c
lies went to work as usual.

Yours sincerely,

S.NARAYANA RAO,ESQ., M.A.,(Hon),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District,
Kolar.

25

631 440

GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE

Telegraphic Address

OFFICE OF

THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, KOLAR.

No. C.C.27/40-41.
Encls. Two.

Dated, Kolar the 29th August '41

Date

CHIEF SECRETARY, 30 AUG. 1941 GOVT. OF MYSORE.

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesaviengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore,

BANGALORE.

Sir,

Copy already sent to Home Minister.

I have the honour to enclose herewith for information, a c of D.O. letter No.C.C.20/40-41, dated 28th August 1941, da received from the Special Superintendent of Police, K.G.F. re. the labour situation.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

226

29/8/41

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
KOLAR DISTRICT.

N. PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 28th August 1941.

142

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports, I beg to state that there was a meeting of the committeemembers of the K.G.F. Electrcity Department on the evening of 27-8-41 in Mr. Maddiah's building Robertsonpet and about 35 Office-bearers attended the same. The subjects discussed was about the reception to be accorded to Mr. P.M.K. Sharma when he visits K.G.F. After considering the matter it was suggested that for a reception by the K.G.F. Electricity Department association, a sum of Rs.12/- may be spent towards purchase of garlands and printing of addresses. As regards general reception the expenditure incurred may be met from the general funds and the labourers of the Electricity Department need not subscribe if they give a separate reception. The question of the time and the place at which the reception has to be given was reserved for future consideration after the date of Mr. Sharma's visit is definitely known. The meeting terminated at 7.15 p.m. A copy of the English translation of the proceedings is enclosed for kind perusal.

The same evening there was another meeting at Abboy buildings, Kennedys' Shaft lines with a gathering of 20 persons. Dorairaj, Joseph and Vijayam of Gorgaum attended. Dorairaj stated that they have congregated there to open the Mandydroog Labour Union Office as it was an auspicious day and that the other particulars would be intimated after the arrival of Mr. P.M.K. Sharma. Joseph who next spoke stated that as per instructions of A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar they have opened the Union

222

OP

44

and that a meeting would be called for within a week to elect Office-bearers. The Union was opened in a building near Loganathan's Chowltry which is taken for rent at Rs.9/- per month.

A similar meeting was also held at Andersonpet the same evening with a gathering of about 50 labourers and 10 committee members. They discussed about the arrangements to be made for the reception of Mr. P.R.K. Sharma, Closed the meeting at about 9.15 p.m. A room in the Upstairs of J.R. Building was taken for rent for locating their Union. It is understood that Mr. P.R.K. Sharma will go over to K.G.F. on the 31st instant.

Yours sincerely,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A., (Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

Mv/-

9-5

Discussion at the gathering of about 30 Office-bearers of the Electricity Department Association at Naddayya's building, Robertsonpet.

***

The discussion commenced at 6.30 p.m. and ended at 7.15 p.m.

The subject of Discussion are as follows :-

1. To give a suitable reception to Sri [illegible] Sharma. What are the arrangements that should be made.

2. Should we give a separate reception on behalf of the Association of the Electricity Department or should we join hands with the general reception that is given on behalf of the K.G.F. labourers? If it is former, how much should we contribute? If it is latter, what are the steps that this Association should do?

3. If this association is to give him a reception should we subscribe to the general receiption?

Some five minutes' time was given to the members for discussion and final opinion.

It was suggested that for the reception that is to be given by this Association, atleast Rs.12/- should be sent. This amount will be spent for garlanding the leader; and presenting him with an address. Atleast 500 addresses should be printed for distribution. Contribution should be voluntary.

It was also said by one of the members that some labourers are demanding some contribution from them als for a general reception. For this, it was suggested that for the general reception, the money that has already been contributed to the general fund, may be utilised for the general reception. In case there is to be reception at this association, the labourers of the Electricity Department need not subscribe.

The time, the way in which reception should be given to the leader, the amount that should be spent on

behalf of this association, may be fixed when the defenite date and time of Sri Sharma's arrival is announced. Till then, the suggestions that were discussed at this meeting, may kindly be intimated to the other Office-bearers who were absent for this meeting and a final opinion may be arrived later.

In view of the darkness in the room where the meeting was held, the meeting dispersed without arriving at any final opinion.

***

" COPY "

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

IR/-

28/8

239

SECRET

D.O. No. 3/41-42/83 (4)

D 627 450

E. G. B. PEEL, ESQ., C.I.E.,
Inspector-General of Police
in Mysore.

BANGALORE

CS

AUG. 1670

August 29, 1941.

My dear Kesavaiengar

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR LAW
AUG 29 1941
No. 1925

I enclose for the information of Government a copy of a letter No. C.C.20/40-41 dated 28th August 1941 received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, regarding the activities of the labourers in Kolar Gold Fields.

Yours
P. Peel

Subd.

Law Minister & Dewan.

29/8

29/8/41

Rajasevaprasakta

B.T. Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secy. to the Govt. of His Highne
The Maharaja of Mysore,
Bangalore.

N. PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 28th August 1941.

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports, I beg to state that there was a meeting of the committeemembers of the K.G.F. Electrcity Department on the evening of 27-8-41 in Mr. Maddiah's building Robertsonpet and about 35 Office-bearers attended the same. The subjects discussed was about the reception to be accorded to Mr. P.R.K. Sharma when he visits K.G.F. After considering the matter it was suggested that for a reception by the K.G.F. Electricity Department association, a sum of Rs.12/- may be spent towards purchase of garlands and printing of addresses. As regards general reception the expenditure incurred may be met from the general funds and the labourers of the Electricity Department need not subscribe if they give a separate reception. The question of the time and the place at which the reception has to be given was reserved for future consideration after the date of Mr. Sharma's visit is definitely known. The meeting terminated at 7.15 p.m. A copy of the English translation of the proceeding is enclosed for kind perusal.

The same evening there was another meeting at Abboy buildings, Kennedys' Shaft lines with a gathering of 20 persons. Dorairaj, Joseph and Vijayam of Oorgaum attended. Dorairaj stated that they have congregated there to open the Handydroog Labour Union Office as it was an auspicious day and that the other particulars would be intimated after the arrival of Mr. P.R.K. Sharma. Joseph who next spoke stated that as per instructions of A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar they have opened the Union

252

✓ 454

and that a meeting would be called for within a week to elect Office-bearers. The Union was opened in a building near Loganathan's Chowltry which is taken for rent at Rs.9/- per month.

A similar meeting was also held at Andersonpet the same evening with a gathering of about 50 labourers and 10 committee members. They discussed about the arrangements to be made for the reception of Mr. P.R.K. Sharma and closed the meeting at about 9.15 p.m. A room in the Upstairs of S.R. Building was taken for rent for locating their Union. It is understood that Mr. P.R.K. Sharma will go over to K.G.F. on the 31st instant.

Yours sincerely,

SD/- N. PUTTARANGASWAMY,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,(Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

NR/-

Copies in duplicate, forwarded with compliments, to the Superintendent of Police, Special Branch in Mysore, Bangalore.

28/8

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

NR/-

28/8

233

Discussion at the gathering of about 30 Office-bearers of the Electricity Department Association at Maddayya's building, Robertsonpet.

***

The discussion commenced at 6.30 p.m. and ended at 7.15 p.m.

The subject of Discussion are as follows :-

1. To give a suitable reception to Sri P.R.K. Sharma. What are the arrangements that should be made.

2. Should we give a separate reception on behalf of the Association of the Electricity Department or should we join hands with the general reception that is given on behalf of the K.G.F. labourers? If it is former, how much should we contribute? If it is latter, what are the steps that this Association should do?

3. If this association is to give him a reception should we subscribe to the general reception?

Some five minutes' time was given to the members for discussion and final opinion.

It was suggested that for the reception that is to be given by this Association, atleast Rs.12/- should be sent. This amount will be spent for garlanding the leader; and presenting him with an address. Atleast 500 addresses should be printed for distribution. Contribution should be voluntary.

It was also said by one of the members that some labourers are demanding some contribution from them also for a general reception. For this, it was suggested that for the general reception, the money that has already been contributed to the general fund, may be utilised for the general reception. In case there is to be reception at this association, the labourers of the Electricity Department need not subscribe.

The time, the way in which reception should be given to the leader, the amount that should be spent on

behalf of this association, may be fixed when the defenite date and time of Sri Sharma's arrival is announced. Till then, the suggestions that were discussed at this meeting, may kindly be intimated to the other Office-bearers who were absent for this meeting and a final opinion may be arrived later.

In view of the darkness in the room where the meeting was held, the meeting dispersed without arriving at any final opinion.

***

" COPY "

28/8

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

NR/-

235

D. O. No. 5/41-42/SB.
Encls(1)

E. G. B. PEEL, Esq., C.I.E.,
Inspector-General of Police
In Mysore.

D609 460

CS

BANGALORE

August 28, 1941.

Subd

Law minister) MK 28/8/41

OFFICE OF THE
MINISTER FOR LAW
AUG 29 1941
No 1937

I enclose for the information of Government a copy of a letter No.CC.20/41-42 dated August 27, 1941, received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, regarding the activities of the labourers in Kolar Gold Fields.

Yours

Rajasevaprasakta
B. T. Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to the Government of
H.H.the Maharaja of Mysore,Bangalore.

236

N.PUTTARANGASWAMY,ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl.Superintendent of Police,

Champion Reefs,
Dated 27th August 1941.

CC.No.20/41-42.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports I beg to state that this day morning about 40 surface coolies of Champion Reefs Mine belonging to the Engineering Department approached the Chief Engineer Mr. Fitz Patricks and demanded increment of wages. The Chief Engineer seems to have replied that they would check the roll call and give increment for 20 coolies ~~for~~ per day and that they need not worry them often in that matter, when all the coolies went to work as usual.

Yours sincerely,

SD/- N.PUTTARANGASWAMY,

S.NARAYANA RAO,ESQ., M.A.,(Hon),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District,
Kolar.

Copy forwarded with compliments to

U.K.Somappa, ESQ., B.A., Superintendent of Police
Spl.Branch, Bangalore.

Spl.Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields

VNR/-

212

GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE

708/CB 464

Telegraphic Address

OFFICE OF

THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, KOLAR DT

No. C.C.27/40-41.
Encls. One.

Dated, Kolar the 3rd day of Septembe

Date

CHIEF SECRETARY, TO 5 - SEP. 1941 GOVT. OF MYSORE.

Rajasevaprasakta

B.T. Kesaviengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore,

Bangalore.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith a copy of C.C.No.20 of 40-41, dated 2nd September 1941, received from the Special Superintendent of Police, K.G.F., re. the labour situation on the -- Fields, for information.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

S. Varadarajan

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
KOLAR DISTRICT.

238

N. PUTTANNAGAJAN, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 2nd September 1941.

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports, I beg to state that it is suspected that the notices against Mr. P.R.K. Sharma are issued by Ramalingam and Lakshmana Mudaliar. It is also gathered that Lakshmana Mudaliar wants to introduce one Bhavani Singh - a communist of Salem into K.G.F. in order that they may get a hold on the labour population here. Lakshmana Mudaliar is also known to have communist sympathies. It is also reported that Lakshmana Mudaliar came from Kuppam with Mr. Sharma on the 31st morning and took part in the procession. It is ascertained that a vast majority of the coolies are against Lakshmana Mudaliar suspecting that he is the author of the notice issued against Mr. Sharma. Some of the coolies seem to have taunted him at Malabar Lodge after the procession calling him a shameless creature and asking him why he came with the procession and why he should attend the meeting, in the evening. Lakshmana Mudaliar seems to have sculked away from the Malabar Lodge after that incident.

On the 31st afternoon some of the coolies wanted to take Mr. Sharma in procession from Robertsonpet to Gymkhana Ground where the meeting had been arranged. As no license had been given for this procession I told Mr. Sharma not to agree to this proposal but to come away to the meeting in a car or a taxi. At this juncture Lakshmana Mudaliar seems to have instigated the coolies that
237 had assembled there that they must insist on taking Mr. Sharma in a procession and defy the Police as they would be helpless to deal with such a big crowd. If the Police at the spot had not

tactfully managed, the situation there would have been serious trouble. Lakshmana Mudaliar only failed in stirring up troubles as he had just become unpopular with the labour population.

In the circumstances referred to above and in view of the fact that this Lakshmana Mudaliar always comes to the Field at a time when there is any trouble or when there is likely to be big gathering of labourers just to avail himself of that opportunity either to take advantage of the situation to win the sympathy of the labourers on his side or to stirr up trouble, I consider that it is not desirable to allow him to stay on the field any longer. In my opinion his stay on the field would not be in the interest of the smooth working of the New Labour Legislation, the formation of Unions under the new Act and the working of these unions. I have, therefore, issued a notice to Lakshmana Mudaliar under Section 27 of the M.M. Act. The notice was served on him on the 1st Morning and as he expressed immediately that he would go to Jolarpet he was sent away to Jolarpet by the train leaving Oorgaum at 11-30 a.m. It is ascertained that he got down at Jolarpet and took the next train back to Kuppam where he is said to be staying at present. His movements will be watched.

The se ving of the notice on Lakshmana Mudaliar was done very quietly and nobody knew of his departure from this place. There is no stirr in any place anywhere and everything is quiet.

One Thejraj of Andersonpet who is a close associate of Lakshmana Mudaliar and who was not active since the last general strike, attended the meeting held on the 31st in honour of Mr. P.R.K Sharma's visit to K.G.F.

Messrs. Ramachandra and Acharya whose

640

came to K.G.F. on the 31st left by Mail train to Bangalore in the early hours of the morning on the 1st. They came back to Corgam again at half past two in the afternoon and were busy the whole afternoon going with Mr. Sharma to see all the Superintendents of the mines and the Chief Medical Officer of the mines. In the evening they were closetted with the Committee members of the mines between 7.30 and 11 p.m. and it is understood that they were discussing the question of selecting the Office-bearers and the Committee members for the different Unions on the Field. It is possible that Mr. Sharma will be the President of the Mysore mine Union and Mr. Acharya - the President of the Nandydroog Labour Union. They propose to have local people as Presidents for the Corgaum and Champion Reef mines' Unions. All of them left K.G.F. this morning towards Bowringpet by the train which leaves Corgaum at 8.25 a.m. Mr. Sharma is expected to go to Madras by the Express Train.

Thejraj of Andersonpet referred to above purchased a ticket to Arkonum and travelled in the train in which Mr. Shamma and others went and it might be that he has gone to get into touch with Lakshmana Mudaliar. The truth of this will be verified and his movements will be watched.

Information is just to hand that the Underground coolies of the Edgar's Shaft in Mysore mine who went down for work this morning have all come to 31st level and are refusing to come up saying that they will stage a stay in strike unless they are assured that they will be sent up hereafter by about 1 p.m. instead of after 2.30 p.m. The exact details are not as yet available and I have deputed Police Officers to go to the Shaft and watch the situation and gather correct information.

241

P.S. - It is now ascertained that the coolies about 300 in number working in the 51st level and below in Edgars' Shaft have staged a stay in strike and have refused to come up. The reason is ascertained to be that they were, ~~@140~~ hitherto, coming up from the Underground between 12-30 and 2 p.m. and now they are asked to come up at 2 p.m. They want that they should be allowed to come up between 12-30 and 2 p.m. as and when they like. All these coolies are at the 51st level. They are peaceful and are not hindering the afternoon shift coolies to go to their work. The situation is being watched and it is expected that they would come up in about an hour's time.

Further developments are being watched and will be duly reported.

Yours sincerely,

G. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A., (Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

NR/-

ML

704/C.B. 4 14

GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE

Telegraphic Address

OFFICE OF

The Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

No. C.C.27/40-41.
Encls. Two letters with their enclosures.

Date Kolar, the 3rd Sptr: 1941.

CHIEF SECRETARY. 5 - SEP. 1941 GOVT. OF MYSORE.

Rajasevaprasakta B.T. Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore,
Bangalore

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith, for information copies of C.C.Nos. 20/40-41 dated 1st September 1941 (two letters) together with their enclosures, received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, regarding the labour situation on the Fields.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

S. Nagaraja Rao

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
KOLAR DISTRICT.

27

THE ATHENAEUM, Ltd., U.C.,
Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 1st Sept. 1921.

C.R.30/8-21.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports, I beg to state that it is reported that this day (30-8-21) morning Mahomedan and two others approached the Chief Mining Agent Mr. Edward and requested him on behalf of the coolies to grant them leave to-morrow so that they could attend the meeting arranged to be held under the Presidentship of Mr. V.V.K. Sharma. The Chief Mining Agent seems to have replied that he could not grant leave to all of them and that the afternoon shift coolies may arrange amongst themselves to attend to work both for the morning and night shifts for to-morrow instead of afternoon shift. Then the labourers asked him to give permission to hold a meeting at Kolhapur ground, for which he replied that they may approach the Superintendent of Kolar gold fields who is incharge of it. Then they all went to work.

The morning shift coolies of Champion Reef, Champion Reef likewise demanded a holiday for to-morrow with pay. Mr. Edwards seems to have replied that he cannot grant them leave nor can he grant permission to hold the meeting at the Kolhapur ground as he is not incharge of it. Similarly about 100 coolies of Champion reef requested the Chief Mining Agent about and they got the same reply.

It is further reported that the labourers are going to present Mr. V.V.K. Sharma a [illegible] of silver, in honour of [illegible] arrival at Kolar. He is said to be hoisting a flag probably Labour flag at 7-30 a.m. to-morrow at Kolhapur and the procession will start at 8 a.m. from Kolhapur. He then addressed a meeting and at Kerko Maidan at [illegible]

4-78

A copy of the English translation of the notice issued in this respect is enclosed herewith for kind perusal.

Yours sincerely,

O.V.Narayana

B. NARAYANA RAO, B.Sc., M.A., (Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

N./-

NOTICE REGARDING RECEPTION TO BE GIVEN TO
SRI SHARMA.

Kolar Gold Field Labour brothers,

The representative of the labourers ~~of~~ and our Sangham President Sri P.M.K. Sharma, B.A.,M.L.A., is to be brought in procession on Sunday the 31st August 41. As there will be a meeting all are requested to grace the occasion by their attendence. This is done in order to welcome our leader; to show our gratitude to Mysore Government for having taken off the prohibitory order that was imposed upon him and to welcome the emergency labour legislation of 1941.

PROGRAMME.

Morning 7-30 Flag Hoisting at Budugur.
9-00 Commencement of procession from Lakshmisagar.
11-15 End of the procession.

Evening 3-30 General meeting at Jirkee Maidan
(1) Introductory Remarks by the President.
(2) Welcome address by the Chairman of the Reception committee Mr. S. Rayappan.
(3) Reading of welcome address -
(4) Address by Sri Sharma
(5) Concluding Remarks of the President.
(6) National Anthem.

K. GOPAL,
Reception Committee,
Secretary.

Immanuel Press.

" COPY "

Asst. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

M/-

F. [illegible], [illegible], B.A.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reef,
Dated 1st Sept. 1941.

C.20/4-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports, I beg to state that Tamil printed notices issued by K.C. Phillips and Dhanmugam and printed at the Standard Press, Madras were distributed in the cooly lines of Oyamare mines on the night of 30-8-41. It refers to the visit of Mr. P.R.K. Sharma to the fields and the success they achieved in obtaining a Union etc. Another printed Tamil notice without any information as to the author and the press at which it was printed was found lying near the Lancock Shaft Road in Marikuppam on the morning of 3 -9-41. This purports to be a warning to the K.G.F. labourers not to trust Mr. Sharma as he has joined the capitalists and the authorities. Copies of the English translation of the same are enclosed herewith for kind perusal.

As per previous programme Mr. P.R.K. Sharma visited K.G.F. on 31-8-41 and the labourers took him on a procession from Robertsonpet which is about 3 miles from K.G.F. after obtaining a license. The procession commenced at 1-30 p.m. and Mr. Sharma was taken in a bullock cart fitted with a mantap decorated with flowers and tied with 7 pairs of bullocks. After passing through Krishnaraja road upto five lights the procession reached Sadhish's building at Robertsonpet at about 4 p.m. through Kennedy shaft lines. Mr. Sharma was taken inside the building and it was some time after that Mr. Sharma addressed the labourers on the Gymkhana grounds at 5-30 p.m. About twenty five thousand labourers took part in the procession.

The meeting in the Gymkhana grounds commenced at 6-30 p.m. and about 30000 persons had assembled. All the mine-cut labourers except Phillips and Ananda Nayagi and Chandra were present. Govindaraj, Chinnadorai, Nayappa and Raghyanathan spoke about their

247

gratitude towards their leader for obtaining an union for them and to Mr. A.V. Ramanathan and the Mysore Government, for giving them recognition to the union. Then Rayappan, Secretary of the reception committee read the welcome address (copy of the English Translation enclosed). Then Mr. P.M.K. Sharma began his speech. He first thanked the authorities for giving him facilities to meet the labourers there and then spoke about the importance of the labourers in industrial concerns and the relief given by the Mysore Government by passing an emergency legislation immediately. He then spoke about the formation of the Sangham and its membership and requested for their co-operation in working the Act. At the close of the meeting a model of Edgar's Shaft made of silver was presented to Sri P.M.K. Sharma on behalf of the labourers.

At 7-30 p.m. another meeting at the Kariku grounds was held with a gathering of 150 labourers. Indraraj introduced Mr. P.M.K. Sharma to the audience and also Messrs. Raji, Acharya and Dharmagam. Mr. P.M.K. Sharma said that he was much indebted to the labourers for their enthusiasm and earnestness and that he would speak to them in detail about the formation of the union. The meeting dispersed with three cheers to His Highness the Maharaja and His Government and to the Mysore leaders.

Copies of the English Translation of the proceedings of these meetings and a copy of the license issued by the Magistrate are enclosed, for kind perusal.

Yours sincerely,

C.Subbaraya

M. Venkata Rao, B.A., B.L., (Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

VR

Proceedings of the meeting held at Gyakhana ground on 31-[illegible]-1941.

The meeting commenced at 4-30 p.m. and closed at about 6-30 p.m.

Gathering - more than about 20,000 labourers.

First Sri Sharma was garlanded on behalf of the labourer working in carpenters' shop, welders' and Blacksmith's shop.

Next a song - praying for the prosperity of their leader was sung by one Teacher by name Lourdswamy.

While singing two old ladies garlanded the leader in their individual capacity.

Next Govindaraj got up and said "It gives me unique pleasure to take the opportunity of showing my gratitude at this occasion by thanking our Leader who has sacrificed his comforts, for the sake of our betterment in life". It is our duty to express our unexpressible feelings of gratitude to Sri A.V. Thomas without whose help we could not have conducted the meeting here. We must leave off differences of caste in the langhana and if people come for subscription do not refuse to pay". Was the essence of the song he sang at the meeting.

Next Chinnadorai ascertained to be of Changlon caste, said his respects to the leader and sang a song wherein he has prayed for the long life of their leader Sri Sharma - Sri V.V. Giri, yours sincerely and His Highness and he had appealed to the members to join the langhana.

At this stage a procession consisting of about 200 labourers reached the meeting.

Next Nagappan spoke. He said "At the very outset I must pay my respects to my leader. I have risen up to express my feelings of joy and gratitude to our leader on your behalf. Let us take this occasion to express my deep regret over the death of the late Highness of Jaipur. His sympathy towards the labourers and his anxiety for their facilities were immense.

There were occasions when we were left ~~untoward~~ unheard off inspite of our repeated representations these years and if we hold this position to-day it is undoubtedly due to this great personage who is sitting here. At the time when there is trouble and anxiety ~~at~~ in Europe and when the whole of Europe is terrified at the word of Hitler the emergency labour measure what is brought by the benign Mysore Government is a memorable achievement in the history of the world. The sympathetic attitude and consideration of the Mysore Government towards the labourers are evidently clear. I will have to consider that the labourers will be failing in their duty rather they will not be human beings at all - if they do not feel that sense of gratitude towards the Government and their leader (cheers). It is remarkable that the benign Mysore Government that the representations/ made by the oppressed labourers to Sri K. Nathan have been givenkind consideration. While finishing my speech with this, I must be failing % in my duty if I do not express my sense of gratitude to the Dewan who has done immense help in these affairs(cheers). I can say with confidence that even the thousand tongued Adi Sesha will not be able rather find it difficult to express the sense and feelings of gratitude to Sri A.V. Ramanathan who had taken much pains to bring this emergency labour measure at the earliest possible time. My thanks are due to [illegible] division Inspectors for the invaluable help that they have rendered to the Bangalore authorities for having permitted us to hold the meeting here - to Ranji for having represented our grievances to the Government now and then - to Mr. Acharya who has sent to "Daily News" articles for publication about the K.G.F. labourers. Our thanks are due to Sri Pattabirama Iyer detective Inspector for his sympathetic attitude over the labourers.

Next Baghyanathan ascertained to be of Champion Reef sang a song where-in he had appreciated the sacrifice rendered by ~~this~~ their leader.

Next Rayappan, Secretary of the Reception Committee

read over the welcome address - the translation of which has already been submitted.

Sri Sharma got up and spoke as follows :-

Companions - From the time I entered this area till now, the way in which you have shown your enthusiasm, gratitude and love makes me more responsible and I am finding it difficult to e press in return my similar feelings to you. It is a memorable day and it must be ~~within~~ the history of the Kolar Gold Fields in Golden letters.

Mr. Rayappan has well acquainted him elf worthy of this occasion and he has said what I wanted to say. Let me thank, on your behalf, the Mysore Government for the facilities they have provided and the opportunities they have given us to meet at this place (cheers). One knows the pleasure when he comes to a shade after his experience at the heat; One realised the pleasure of drinking water when he is thirsty and I know my pleasure for having achieved a thing for which I have been labouring.

You are aware that you have been struggling for the past one year to form this Sangham which has been functionin in many parts of this country, through the medium of which the labourers of their respective industrial concerns are achieving benefit and which you have been deprived of You are also aware of the hindrances, troubles, anxieties th we had to face during this year of struggle. Even though such Sanghams are being recognised by the Government, in different states, you were deprived of such all these years. You will all accept that in this State there has been an enormous growth of industrial concern. It is also considered as a model State. For every industrial concern, labourers are necessary without whom, machine guns will not work, 4 anna pieces will not become one rupee coins. Without the strength of the labourers nothing can happen. It is true that for labour, skill,

etc.

endeavours are necessary but it is still more necessary that the labouring class exist in a healthy condition. It is regrettable that in India, much unemployment is noticed. Even among employed classes, labourers are so poverty stricken and so badly treated that their voices are left even to day unheard off in India. If unemployment is to be warded off it is necessary that much labour concerns are opened and open all employments for the poorer classes of people, that is what Gandhiji says(cheers). If the human beings i.e. labourers are not kept in so sad state of things to work out things that are done by them, it is as good as having nothing in this Universe. Where there are much labour concerns it is necessary that troubles arising out of differences between the labourers and the capitalists are decided and settled then and there without giving scope for further ~~security~~ development, For this legislation is essential. I yours Government has realised this and come forward with the emergency labour legislation./ It is common that irregularities exist and it is also common that differences of opinion between the labouring and the capitalist classes arise often and if the Government makes it possible to interfer into these things and set aright things then and there, then justice is said to have been meted out and establish

I have not come here to speak of what we have achieved or as to how we have achieved but as to what we should do for our future.

Now you r struggle for the formation of this Congress did not end in vain. You have achieved a right to form the Congress (cheers).

A man who is poverty-stricken and who has not seen food for many days, does not complain that much or less salt was put in the dice when he ate it.

You were in the same condition. You have achieved something. You must not complain that this or that could have been done. You must realise the time at

at this juncture. This is the time of struggle of death between the countries in Europe. It is not possible to satisfy all the wants and needs. It is also necessary that the cooperation from the side of the capitalists and their realisation of the sufferings of the labourers are obtained.

When I came here last, I reached this place not with the intention of violating any rule here but to catch the train from this place because this is a nearer route to catch the train to Madras. I am not prepared to say why I was asked to quit this area, or how I was permitted to enter this area now. I hear that for my entrance to this place the Deputy Commissioner and the Special Superintendent of Police are responsible. I went to your Deputy Commissioner Mr. Narayana Rao, and he said that unions were granted and to work them I was permitted to enter this area and do the needful. My thanks are due to the local authorities. I can definitely say that the endeavours taken by me have not ended in failure. It has been the outlook of the Sangham even since the beginning that the Government should cooperate for a peaceful labour.

The branch of the tree under which we had held meetings to Sangam has been brought here (cheers). It will be no wonder if people from Madras to be come branches of the same tree to get the same achievement that you have got within so short a time and plant them here so that they may get the same enthusiasm, unity and achievement (cheers). For the achievement of this Sangha, in the past, many were hanged - many were imprisoned, but in these days of advanced civilisation, a right to live with the other has been recognised and the grant of Sangham has been got without bloodshed.

I have got with me a Sangha Charter. In cl.(8) - - the promotion of common interests is hereby recognised".

The right for which we have struggled for these days has been recognised.

Before you welcome this measure, I have already welcomed this measure on your behalf.

For the formation of the Sangham for the membership in it, or for taking part in the interests of Sangham, no labourer will be sent out, nor punished nor sent away from his work. If any of these things happen, the capitalists will be fined Rs.1000/- (cheers). No such imposition upon a capitalist is found in British India. I have got for you such a measure. In America, Australia or in any part of any civilised country in the World, no such imposition exists, If any body wants to contest with me on this point, I am prepared to talk to him. I am staying here to-morrow. I am prepared to swear that such a clause does not exist any where even before 1000 temples (cheers). Only if we had got such a clause in Madras, we would have been jumping by this time there. But it is a pity it is not done. We are in the most rotten condition in British India. We have no powers to force them to do certain things. Now all protection is given to the labourers in the Mysore State.

It is because of the emergency legislation, we have assembled here in emergency and I hope that our troubles also will be over soon.

Especially - permitting outsiders to work this Union in this area - has been under severe contest. But it is a surprise that the capitalists had come down to recognise the importance attached to this, and the Government too have shown kind and sympathetic consideration over the issues and your representative Govindaraju Mudaliar struggled hard to bring this to a success and we have achieved that too.

Four Sanghams are granted for four mines. The purpose of the same is that every union must be worked well and efficiently. Nowhere is it said

in the Act that one Union should not cooperate with the other.

If you offer me your cooperation I am prepared to do things that you order me to do, from the enthusiasm You have shown me to-day, I will have to tell you plainly that this is the outcome of the sufferings you are having at present. Unions must be worked properly. Discipline - Belief - Cooperation - Unity are the most essential factors for the successful working. Irrespective of the personal troubles, difficulties, anxieties that I have, I am prepared to sacrifice for your sake provided you have BELIEF in me. I do not want to say why. You should have that in me. The man who built the house knows the difficulty and the man who has made the pot knows the difficulty of making it but not others. It is very easy to break it but the difficulty of the construction of the same must be realised. If we want to come forward discipline is most essential. If you show the same loyalty, enthusiasm, cooperation and belief, I will show that this Kolar Gold Fields shall be a Sangham to taken as a model Sanghom and this Sangham teaches other Sanghams morals and many other things beside them. If you are ready to show the same cooperation, raise that hand and say thrice 'AMAN'.

Above and unanimous response from the crowd which.

It is most appreciable that the mining superintendents of all the four mines have showed their willingness to accept the grant of the Union. I humbly request that on your behalf on this occasion to mind, cooperate with us. I am eager to invite all high personages to open each labour Union. One by Mr. Sri V. Ramanathan the other by Sri Mirza and the others by the superintendent of some mines here.

There will be election later for office bearers and you know there will be re-election every year. In the lower house of the legislature two seats are given for

Bangalore and Kolar labourers, Paul- for the upper House one Seat is given and I have requested a seat for the upper House may be taken from this area this year.

I want to finish off my speech. I have got much work at Madras. Many Secretaries of the Sanghams have come here and they want me there. I will be staying here only to-morrow. There may be a general meeting here tomorrow if sanction is accorded and if it is made convenient I will much like to speak to each mine labourer by the side of their respective mines.

To-day I have received a telegram from your Secretary K.C. Phillips praying for a successful meeting (cheers).

Lastly I request you to disperse without giving way for any remarks.

At this time, a model of Edgars' Shaft made of silver was presented to Sri P.R.K. Sharma on behalf of the Kolar Gold Fields Labourers.

Shanmugam ~~[illegible]~~ got up and said that he is extremely pleased to find all the mine-out labourers in the midst of their rejoicings.

Personnel of Champion Reefs gave three cheers to their leader and the Mysore Shanmugam.

The meeting dispersed.

***

" COPY "

O Subbarayan

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

NV-

26

Proceedings of the meeting held at the ground at 7-30 p.m. (opposite to Marikuppam Police Station).

Gathering about 150 - half of them women folk.

The meeting commenced at 7-30 p.m. and closed at 8 p.m.

First Indraraj introduced to the audience Sri P.L.F. Sharma as the one who has sacrificed his life for the sake of the labourers. Similarly he introduced Ranji, Acharaya and Shanmugam as the very persons that were helpful for the formation of the unions in this area.

A small boy sang the song attached herewith wherein gratitude and appreciation for their leader were shown.

When Sri P.L.F. Sharma got up amidst cheers and stated that this was a remarkable and unforgettable place for him in his life because it was at this place that he was served with notice when he visited last. He asked them to forget this and said that he was much indebted to them for their enthusiasm and earnestness. He said that in view of the grant of the unions to them, he had to take leave as he got much work. He promised to see them again and speak in detail for a long time.

The meeting dispersed after three cheers were given to His Highness, the Mysore Government and to their leader.

There was no breach of the peace.

" COPY "

Asst. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

N.B/-

IN THE COURT OF THE [illegible] FIRST CLASS MAGISTRATE,
KOLAR GOLD FIELDS

Licence is granted to the representatives of K.G.F. labourers noted in the margin.

1. To conduct a procession for taking out Mr. P.R.K. Sharma in a bullock cart with seven pairs of bullocks on 31-8-41, between 9.a.m. and 12 noon, the procession to form and start from Lakshmicagara and to proceed along Krishnaraja Road from near the Brick factory and to Robertsonpet Bus-stand vid five lights at Nandydroog and Kennedy shaft and Avenue Road and

2. to hold a public meeting of the labourers of K.G.F. area at the Gymkhana grounds, Oorgaum with arrangements for installing a loud-speaker, for the purpose of presentating an address to Mr. P.R.K. Sharma, between the hours 3-30 P.m. and 5.P.m.

The following conditions are imposed both for the conduct of the procession as well as the meeting.

1. No flags or placards of any kind with any emblems or slogans thereon, except the tricolor flag or the respective banners of the labour unions should be carried or exhibited.

2. No political or party slogans should be uttered.

3. No room should be given for any disturbance or breach of peace. The representatives will be held individually and collectively responsible for any unseemly or disorderly behaviour by any of the members both during the process ion as well as at the meeting.

4. The processionists and the organisers and members of the meeting should conform to all rules and regulations and reasonable directions that may be given from time to time by the police.

25

Given under my hand and the seal of this court, this 30th day of August 1941.

Champion Reefs
Dated 30-8-41.

CD/- K.SRINIVASAN
Special 1st class Magistrate,
Kolar Gold Fields

LAGHI

1. Kanniappan, Mysore Line.
2. Sundraraj -do-
3. Velosco. -do-
4. [illegible] Perumal Champion Reefs
5. [illegible] Chanamany, -do-
6. [illegible] Abimanathan, -do-
7. [illegible] ani -do-
8. V[illegible]aju -do-
9. [illegible] Murudian, Electric Department
10. K.Saravanan -do-
11. [illegible] Singaram -do-
12. [illegible] Ganapathi. Champion Reefs
13. [illegible] Nayagam Corgum
14. [illegible] Andaswamy, do
15. [illegible] Perumal, Corgum
16. F.Joseph, Mandydroog
17. [illegible] Moriraj, do
18. K.Gopalan, do Non. Secy. Reception. Committee, K.G.F. Labour Union.

S.V/-

"COPY"

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields

WELCOME ADDRESS

to

Kolar Gold Fields Labourers Sangham leader Sri P. K. Sharma.

by

Kolar Gold Fields labourers on Sunday the 31-[illegible]-41.

Ever smiling personage,

Our mind is immersed in the vast flood of rejoicings when the South Indian labourers praise of you in one voice as the one who is capable of changing the depressed happy by showing your smiling face and conversing with them in in sweet tamil language and bring solace to the labourers who are depressed due to their mental agony.

Your presence in our midst makes us immersed in our inexpressible rejoicings still more.

Untiring in sacrific, Oh! noble soul!

How can it be possible for us to describe even when the most learned men fail to describe your sacrifice that you had done for our betterment in life. From the time you left Madras, till now you did not take proper food, You did not care for your health, and you shuddered to think of the troubles of K.G.F. labourers. Your sacrifice, your endeavours, your eagerness, your sympathy over us here, the patient, timely and the excellent way in which you have represented our grievances to the most benign Mysore Government thus ending in our benefits will be a matter of unforgetfullness and will be written in Gold letters in the history of the Gold Fields.

Our hearts, the hearts of the mining labourers that were as children without their mothers, sugar canes in the mouth of grinding machines, frogs in the mouth of snakes are blossomed with great pleasure and your presence amidst us makes us stand as a lotus blossoms at a rising sun.

We humbly place our gratefulness to you for the sacrifices you have done for and for having established the Sangham amidst the labourers who were upholding till now

the leaders' word that Gandhiji will do what gold cannot do and that Gandhiji alone is the medium of their solace.

Oh! leader who has come down to Gold Fields!!

It is our eagerness that this Gandhiji should pave a path to India under the able and well-experienced leadership. May His Almighty bless us to enable us to fulfil our eagerness, to give you long and healthy life and to make the labourers worth sincerity and truthfullness. May Mysore Gandhiji grow.

We take this occasion to remind every one of you that we have not forgotten elderly men and brothers for the inexpressible troubles that they took on behalf of the labourers.

Yours

Kolar Gold Field Labourers, SP.

***

" C.Y "

Dy. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

MR/-

Kolar Gold Fields Labourers!

Beware! Beware!

Your leader Sri Sharma has joined with the capitalists and the authorities.

***

It is well known to the labour class the Mysore Emergency Labour Legislation is the out come of thesacrifices by the K.G.F. labourers.

Companions! Though the legislation is welcome, Sec. 7 (Cl) (B) 24, 8 of the legislation as described by Sri K.T. Bashyam and published in the Hindu dated 26th would have been seen by you. In addition to this this has been published in the Kannada paper dated 24th. As a result of this, Sri Bashyam is in Jail. But your leader Sharma has accepted this legislation on your behalf. Hence Prohibitory order imposed on him has been removed and on 26th that has been passed and brought into an Act. You have ~~prevent~~ paved a way for a split among the labourers by permitting Sri Sarma into the Mysore State who has become a slave at the hands of the authorities.

Is it just to have dancing festivities in your house when a death has occurred at the next door? Oh companions; you have kissing the most poisonous snakes; It is very difficult to save ourselves after the poison reaches ~~our~~ our veins; If we tak pains to ~~se~~ prevent poison from entering into the body we can live long. Your ~~have lost~~ Sarma has dug a pit for your rights you have lost your birth right. Who is sharma? What sort of man is he? you will come to know of these theings soon. If you have any doubt, collect this information from the sanghams of Madras, Ranipet, Thiruvottiur. Where ever he is, there will be two sanghams- Capitalist Sangham and labour Sangham; So Awake; Beware; Becareful; do not sleep; do not be ruined;

(1) Why was Sri Bashyam arrested (2) Why was prohibitary order against Sarma removed (3) Why was Ramalingham mined out? (Ref. Hindu, page 2, dated 28-3-41.

" Labourers Beware "

" C O P Y "

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Golf Fields

A LETTER TO KOLAR GOLD FIELDS LABOURERS.

Companions! Our thanks are due to you at the time when you are happy due to your success in your achievement and endeavours. You have achieved the right of possessing a sanghom for which we all struggled. Legislation too has been passed. The Government have permitted our leader to enter the Gold Fields to work out the sanghams. Even the mine-out labourers are in your midst. It is certain that some more troubles that they are facing, will be over. Our leader is visiting the fields next Sunday. You will be seeking a way for our presence also there in case you give suitable reception to our leader and work the sanghom as per regulations. Even though we are not able to take part in your rejoicing, we send our appreciation and thanks to you.

Long live the unity of the Kolar Gold Fields Labourers!
Long live labour legislation.
Long growth to labour sanghams.
Let there be peace in the labourers ever!

Your beloved companion
C.R. Shanmugam.
M.C. Phillips.

Kolar.
31-[illegible]-41.
Standard Press Madras.

" COPY "

Dpl. Superintendent of Police.

To-

[illegible]

515

GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE

Telegraphic Address

OFFICE OF

THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, KOLAR DT.

No. C.C.27/40-41.
Encls. Two.

Dated, Kolar the 4th day of September 1

Date

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesaviengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to Government of
H.H. the Maharaja of Mysore, Bangalore.

I have the honour to forward herewith a copy of D.O. letter No.C.C.20/40-41, dated 3rd September 1941, received from the Special Superintendent of Police, K.G.F., re. the labour --- situation on the Fields, for information.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER (IN CHARGE)
KOLAR DISTRICT, KOLAR.

Law Minister

MK 529/41

529

MK 529

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR LAW
SEP 5 1941
No. 2183

267

N. PUTTANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Sol. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 3rd September 1941.

C.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my report of yesterday, I beg to state that the coolies of Mysore mine who staged a stay in strike, came up to the surface of their own accord at 7 p.m. and it is ascertained that they would approach the mining Superintendent to represent their grievances. It is ascertained that there were 700 persons underground without coming up at the usual hour. It is reported that T.No.590 Appaswamy was the leader for the labourers who refused to come up to the Surface. Further details about this Appaswamy as to his previous history and antecedents will be collected and reported. This morning no one went to see the Superintendent and every one went to work as usual.

Yours sincerely,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,(Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

HR/-

267

N. PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Superintendent of Police.

CC.20/40-41.

521

Champion Reefs,
Dated 3rd September 1941.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my report of yesterday, I beg to state that the coolies of Mysore mine who staged a stay-in strike, came up to the surface of their own accord at 7 p.m. and it is ascertained that they would approach the mining Superintendent to represent their grievances. It is ascertained that there were 700 persons underground without coming up at the usual hour. It is reported that T.No.590 Appaswamy was the leader for the labourers who refused to come up to the Surface. Further details about this Appaswamy as to his previous history and antecedents will be collected and reported. This morning no one went to see the Superintendent and every one went to work as usual.

Yours sincerely,

SD/- N. PUTTARANGASWAMY,

NR/-

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,(Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

Copies in duplicate forwarded, with compliments, to the Superintendent of Police, Special Branch in Mysore, Bangalore.

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

SECRET

D. O. No. 5/41-42/S.B.
Encls. (4)

696/CB 523

E. G. B. PEEL, Esq., C.I.E.,
Inspector-General of Police
in Mysore.

BANGALORE

DEWAN'S OFFICE
6. SEP. 1941
NO. 1892

OFFICE OF THE
MINISTER FOR LAW
SEP 5 1941
No. 2176

Dated September 3, 1941.

My dear Kesavaiengar,

I enclose for the information of Government a copy of a report No. C.C.20/40-41 dated September 2, 1941, received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, regarding the activities of the labourers in Kolar Gold fields, and the stay-in-strike in the Mysore Mine.

Yours
E. G. B. Peel

Submit
(Law minister & Dewan)
3/9/41
5/9
629

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Mysore,
Bangalore.

7/9/41
509

287

N. PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 2nd September 1941.

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports, I beg to state that it is suspected that the notice against Mr. P.R.K. Sharma are issued by Ramalingam and Lakshmana Mudaliar. It is also gathered that Lakshmana Mudaliar wants to introduce one Bhavani Singh - a communist of Salem into K.G.F. in order that they may get a hold on the labour population here. Lakshmana Mudaliar is also known to have communist sympathies. It is also reported that Lakshmana Mudaliar came from Kuppam with Mr. Sharma on the 31st morning and took part in the procession It is ascertained that a vast majority of the coolies are against Lakshmana Mudaliar suspecting that he is the author of the notice issued against Mr. Sharma. Some of the coolies seem to have taunted him at Malabar Lodge after the procession calling him a shameless creature and asking him why he came with the procession and why he should attend the meeting, in the evening. Lakshmana Mudaliar seems to have sculked away from the Malabar Lodge after that incident.

On the 31st afternoon some of the coolies wanted to take Mr. Sharma in procession from Robertsonpet to Gymkhana Ground where the meeting had been arranged. As no license had been given for this procession I told Mr. Sharma not to agree to this proposal but to come away to the meeting in a car or a taxi. At this juncture Lakshmana Mudaliar seems to have instigated the coolies that had assembled there that they must insist on taking Mr. Sharma in a procession and defy the Police as they would be helpless to deal with such a big crowd. If the Police at the spot had not

tactfully managed, the situation there, would have been serious trouble. Lakshmana Mudaliar only failed in stirring up troubles as he had just become unpopular with the labour population.

In the circumstances referred to above and in view of the fact that this Lakshmana Mudaliar always comes to the Field at a time when there is any trouble or when there is likely to be big gathering of labourers just to avail himself of that opportunity either to take advantage of the situation to win the sympathy of the labourers on his side or to stir up trouble, I consider that it is not desirable to allow him to stay on the field any longer. In my opinion his stay on the field would not be in the interest of the smooth working of the New Labour Legislation, the formation of Unions under the new Act and the working of these unions. I have, therefore, issued a notice to Lakshmana Mudaliar under Section 17 of the M.M. Act. The notice was served on him on the 1st morning and as he expressed immediately that he would go to Jolarpet he was sent away to Jolarpet by the train leaving Oorgaum at 11-30 a.m. It is ascertained that he got down at Jolarpet and took the next train back to Kuppam where he is said to be staying at present. His movements will be watched.

The serving of the notice on Lakshmana Mudaliar was done very quietly and nobody knew of his departure from this place. There is no stir anywhere and everything is quiet.

One Thejraj of Andersonpet who is a close associate of Lakshmana Mudaliar and who was not active since the last general strike, attended the meeting held on the 31st in honour of Mr. P.R.K. Sharma's visit to K.G.F.

Messrs. Ramachandra and Acharya who

came to K.G.F. on the 31st left by Mail train to Bangalore in the early hours of the morning on the 1st. They came back to Corgam again at half past two in the afternoon and were busy the whole afternoon going with Mr. Sharma to see all the Superintendents of the mines and the Chief Medical Officer of the mines. In the evening they were closetted with the Committee members of the mines between 7.30 and 11 p.m. and it is understood that they were discussing the question of selecting the Office-bearers and the Committee members for the different Unions on the Field. It is possible that Mr. Sharma will be the President of the Mysore mine Union and Mr. Acharya - the President of the Nandydroog Labour Union. They propose to have local people as Presidents for the Oorgaum and Champion Reef mines' Unions. All of them left K.G.F. this morning towards Bowringpet by the train which leaves Oorgaum at 8.25 a.m. Mr. Sharma is expected to go to Madras by the Express Train.

Thejraj of Andersonpet referred to above purchased a ticket to Arkonum and travelled in the train in which Mr. Shamma and others went and it might be that he has gone to get into touch with Lakshmana Mudaliar. The truth of this will be verified and his movements will be watched.

Information is just to hand that the Underground coolies of the Edgar's Shaft in Mysore mine who went down for work this morning have all come to 51st level and are refusing to come up saying that they will stage a stay-in strike unless they are assured that they will be sent up hereafter by about 1 p.m. instead of after 2.30 p.m. The exact details are not as yet available and I have deputed Police Officers to go to the Shaft and watch the situation and gather correct information.

170

P.S. - It is now ascertained that the coolies about 300 in number working in the 51st level and below in Edgars' Shaft have staged a stay in strike and have refused to come up. The reason is ascertained to be that they were, hitherto, coming up from the Underground between 12-30 and 2 p.m. and now they are asked to come up at 2 p.m. They want that they should be allowed to come up between 12-30 and 2 p.m. as and when they like. All these coolies are at the 51st level. They are peaceful and are not hindering the afternoon shift coolies to go to their work. The situation is being watched and it is expected that they would come up in about an hour's time.

Further developments are being watched and will be duly reported.

Yours sincerely,

SD/- N. PUTTARANGASWAMY,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,(Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

NR/-

Copies in duplicate, forwarded with compliments, to the Superintendent of Police, Special Branch in Mysore, Bangalore.

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

221

SECRET

693 5 33

D. O. No. 5/41-42/S.B.
Encls. (2 reports.)

E. G. B. PEEL, Esq., C.I.E.,
Inspector-General of Police in Mysore

BANGALORE

Dated September 3, 41.

DEWAN'S OFFICE
6. SEP. 1941
NO. 1877

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR LAW
SEP 5 1941
No. 2174

My dear Kesavaiengar,

I enclose for the information of Government copies of report, No. C.C. 20/40-41 dated September 1, 1941, received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, regarding the proceedings of a public meeting held in Kolar Gold Fields and the activities of the labourers there.

Yours

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Mysore,
Bangalore.

N. PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs, 335
Dated 1st Sept. 1941.

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports, I beg to state that Tamil printed notices issued by K.C. Phillips and Shanmugam and printed at the Standard Press, Madras were distributed in the cooly lines of Mysore mines on the night of 30-8-41. It refers to the visit of Mr. P.R.K. Sharma to the fields and the success they achieved in obtaining a Union etc. Another printed Tamil notice without any information as to the author and the press at which it was printed was found lying near the Hancock Shaft Road in marikuppam on the morning of 31-8-41. This purports to be a warning to the K.G.F. labourers not to trust Mr. Sharma as he has joined the capitalists and the authorities. Copies of the English translation of the same are enclosed herewith for kind perusal.

As per previous programme Mr. P.R.K. Sharma visited K.G.F. on 31-8-41 and the labourers took him on a procession from Lakshmisagar which is about 3 miles from K.G.F. after obtaining a license. The procession commenced at 10-25 a.m. and Mr. Sharma was taken in a bullock cart fitted with a mantap decorated with flowers and tied with 7 pairs of bullocks. After passing through Sree Krishnaraja road upto five lights the procession reached Maddiah's building at Robertsonpet at about 1 p.m. through Kennedy shaft lines. Mr. Sharma was taken inside the building and it was announced thereafter that Mr. Sharma would meet the labourers at the Gymkhana grounds at 3-30 p.m. About twenty five thousand labourers took part in the procession.

The meeting in the Gymkhana grounds commenced at 4-30 p.m. and about 30000 persons had gathered. All the mine-out labourers except Phillips and Messrs. Ramji and ~~and~~ Char were present. Govindaraj, Chinnadorai, Rayappa and Baghyanathan spoke showing their

273

bp

 537

gratitude towards their leader for obtaining an Union for them and to Mr. A.V. Ramanathan and the Mysore Government, giving them recognition to the Union. Then Rayappan, Secretary of the reception committee read the Welcome address (copy of the English Translation enclosed). Then Mr. P.R.K. Sharma began his speech. He first thanked the authorities for giving him facilities to meet the labourers there and then spoke about the importance of the labourers in industrial concerns and the relief given by the Mysore Government by passing an emergency legislation immediately. He then spoke about the formation of the Sangham and its membership and requested for their co-operation in working the Act. At the close of the meeting a model of Edgar's Shaft made of silver was presented to Sri P.R.K. Sharma on behalf of the labourers.

At 7-30 p.m. another meeting at the Marikuppam was held with a gathering of 150 labourers. Indraraj intoroduced Mr. P.R.K. Sharma to the audience and also Messrs. Ramji, Acharya and Shanmugam. Mr. P.R.K. Sharma said that he was much indebted to the labourers for their enthusiasm and earnestness and that he would speak to them in detail about the formation of the Union. The meeting dispersed with three cheers to His Highness the Maharaja and His Government and to the Labour leaders.

Copies of the English Translation of the proceedings of these meetings and a copy of the license issued by the Magistrate are enclosed, for kind perusal.

Yours sincerely,

- SD/- N. PUTTARANGASWALY,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,(Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

Copies in cuplicate, forwarded with compliments to the Supt. of Police, Spl. Branch in Mysore, B'lore.

224 -

Spl. Superintendent of Police.

News

Proceedings of the meeting held at Gymkhana ground on 31-8-1941.

***

The meeting commenced at 4-30 p.m. and closed at about 6-30 p.m.

Gathering - more than about 20,000 labourers.

***

First Sri Sharma was garlanded on behalf of the labourers working in carpenters' shop, Welders' and Blacksmith's shop.

Next a song - praying for the prosperity of their leader was sung by one Teacher by name Lourdaswamy.

While singing two old ladies garlanded the leader in their individual capacity.

Next Govindaraj got up and said "It gives me unique pleasure to take the opportunity of showing my gratitude on this occasion by thanking our Leader who has sacrificed his comforts, for the sake of our betterment in life". It is our duty to show our unexpressible feelings of gratitude to Sri A.V. Ramanathan without whose help we could not have conducted the meeting here. We must leave off differences of caste in the Sangham and if people come for subscription do not refuse to pay" was the essence of the song he sang at the meeting.

Next Chinnadorai ascertained to be of Champion Reefs, paid his respects to the leader and sang a song wherein he had prayed for the long life of their leader Sri Sharma - Sri V.V. Giri, Mysore Rajyam and His Highness and he had appealed to the members to join the Sangham.

At this stage a procession consisting of about 200 labourers reached the meeting.

Next Rayappa spoke. He said "At the very outset I must pay my respects to my leader. I have risen up to express my feelings of joy and gratitude to our leader on your behalf. Let me take this occasion to express my deep regret over the death of the late Highness of Mysore. His sympathy towards the labourers and his anxiety for their facilities were immense.

175

There were occasions when we were left unheard off inspite of our repeated representations these years and if we hold this position to-day it is undoubtedly due to this great personage who is sitting here. At the time when there is trouble and anxiety in Europe and when the whole of Europe is terrified at the word of Hitler, the emergency labour measure that is brought by the benign Mysore Government is a memorable achievement in the history of the world. The sympathetic attitude and consideration of the Mysore Government towards the labourers are evidently clear. I will have to consider that the labourers will be failing in their duty rather they will not be human beings at all - if they do not feel that sense of gratitude towards the Government and their leader (cheers). It is remarkable that the benign Mysore Government that the representations made by the oppressed labourers to Sri K. Nathan have been given kind consideration. While finishing my speech with this, I must be failing in my duty if I do not express my sense of gratitude to the Dewan who has done immense help in these affairs(cheers). I can say with confidence that even the thousand tongued Adi Sesha will not be able rather find it difficult to express the sense and feelings of gratitude to Sri A.V. Ramanathan who had taken much pains to bring this emergency labour measure at the earliest possible time. My thanks are due to 'A' & 'B' division Inspectors for the invaluable help that they have rendered to the Sangham authorities for having permitted us to hold the meeting here - to Ramji for having represented our grievances to the Government now and then - to Mr. Acharaya who has sent to "Daily News" articles for publication about the K.G.F. labourers. Our thanks are due to Sri Pattabirama Iyer detective Inspector for his sympathetic attitude over the labourers.

Next Baghyanathan ascertained to be of Champion Reef sang a song where-in he had appreciated the sacrifice rendered by their leader.

Next Rayappan, Secretary of the Reception Committee

read over the welcome address - the translation of which has already been submitted.

Sri Sharma got up and spoke as follows :-

"Companions - From the time I entered this area till now, the way in which you have shown your enthusiasm, gratitude and love makes me more responsible and I am finding it difficult to express in return my similar feelings to you. It is a memorable day and it must be within the history of the Kolar Gold Fields in Golden letters.

Mr. Rayappan has well acquainted himself worthy of this occasion and he has said what I wanted to say. Let me thank, on your behalf, the Mysore Government for the facilities they have provided and the opportunities they have given us to meet at this place (cheers). One knows the pleasure when he comes to a shade after his experience at the heat; One realised the pleasure of drinking water when he is thirsty and I know my pleasure for having achieved a thing for which I have been labouring.

You are aware that you have been struggling for the past one year to form this Sangham which has been functioning in many parts of this country, through the medium of which the labourers of their respective industrial concerns were achieving benefit and which you have been deprived of. You are also aware of the hindrances, troubles, anxieties that we had to face during this year of struggle. Even though such Sanghams are being recognised by the Government, in different states, you were deprived of such all these years. You will all accept that in this State there has been an enormous growth of industrial concern. It is also considered as a model State. For every industrial concern, labourers are necessary without whom, machine guns will not work, 4 anna pieces will not become one rupee coins. Without the strength of the labourers nothing can happen. It is true that for labour, skill,

endeavours are necessary; but it is still more necessary that the labouring class exist in a healthy condition. It is regretable that in India, much unemployment is noticed. Even among employed classes, labourers are so poverty stricken and so badly treated that their voices are left even to day unheard off in India. If unemployment is to be warded off it is necessary that much labour concerns are opened and open all employments for the poorer classes of people, that is what Gandhiji says(cheers). If the human beings i.e. labourers are not kept in sound state of things to work out things that are done by them, it is as good as having nothing in this Universe. Where there are much labour concerns it is necessary that troubles arising out of differences between the labourers and the capitalists are decided and settled then and there without giving scope for further development. For this legislation is essential. Mysore Government has realised this and come forward with the Emergency Labour Legislation. It is common that irregularities exist and it is also common that differences of opinion between the labouring and the capitalist classes arise o ten and if the Government makes it possible to interfere into these things and set aright things then and there, then justice is said to have been meted out and establishe

I have not come here to speak of what we have achieved or as to how we have achieved but as to what we should do for our future.

Now your struggle for the formation of this Sangham did not end in vain. You have achieved a right to form the Sangham (cheers).

A man who is poverty-stricken and who has not seen food for many days, does not complain that much or less salt was put in the Rice when he get it.

You were in the same condition. You have achieved somethings. You must not complain that this or that could have been done. You must realise the time at

at this juncture. This is the time of struggle of death between the countries in Europe. It is not possible to satisfy all the wants and needs. It is also necessary that the cooperation from the side of the capitalists and their realisation of the sufferings of the labourers are obtained.

When I came here last, I reached this place not with the intention of violating any rule here but to catch the train from this place because this is a nearer route to catch the train to Madras. I am not prepared to say why I was asked to quit this area, or how I was permitted to enter this area now. I hear that for my entrance to this place the Deputy Commissioner and the Special Superintendent of Police are responsible. I went to your Deputy Commissioner Mr. Narayana Rao, and he said that unions were granted and to work them I was permitted to enter this area and do the needful. My thanks are due to the local authorities. I can definitely say that the endeavours taken by me have not ended in failure. It has been the outlook of the Sangham even since the begining that the Government should cooperate for a peaceful labour.

The branch of the tree under which we had held meetings at Budugur and has been brought here (cheers). It will be no wonder if people from Madras take some branches of the same tree to get the same achievement that you have got within so short a time and plant them there so that they may get the same enthusiasm, unity and achievement (cheers). For the achievement of this Sangham, in the past, many were hanged - many were imprisoned, but in these days of advanced civilisation, a right to move with the other has been recognised and the grant of Sangham has been got without bloodshed.

I have got with me a MAGNA CARTA. In Cl.(2) - - "the promotion of common interests is hereby recognised".

The right for which we have struggled for these days has been recognised.

Before you welcome this measure, I have already welcomed this measure on your behalf.

For the formation of the Sangham, for the membership in it, or for taking part in the interests of Sangham, no labourer will be sent out, nor punished nor sent away from his work. If any of these things happen, the capitalists will be fined Rs.1000/- (cheers). No such imposition upon a capitalist is found in British India. I have got for you such a measure. In America, Australia or in any part of any civilised country in the World, no such imposition exists, If any body wants to contest with me on this point, I am prepared to talk to him. I am staying here to-morrow. I am prepared to swear that such a clause does not exist any where even before 1000 temples (cheers). Only if we had got such a clause in Madras, we would have been jumping by this time there. But it is a pity it is not done. We are in the most rotten condition in British India. We have no powers to force them to do certain things. Now all protection is given to the labourers in the Mysore State.

It is because of the emergency legislation, we have assembled here in emergency and I hope that our troubles also will be over soon.

Especially - permitting outsiders to work this Union in this area - has been under severe contest. But it is a surprise that the capitalists had come down to recognise the importance attached to this, and the Government too have shown kind and sympathetic consideration over the issues and your representative Govindaraja Mudaliar struggled hard to bring this to a success and we have achieved that too.

Four Sanghams are granted for four mines. The purpose of the same is that every union must be worked well and efficiently. Nowhere is it said

in the Act that one Union should not cooperate with the other.

If you offer me your cooperation I am prepared to do things that you order me to do, from the enthusiasm You have shown me to-day, I will have to tell you plainly that this is the outcome of the sufferings, you are having at present. Unions must be worked properly. Discipline - Belief - Cooperation - Unity are the most essential factors for the successful working. Irrespective of the personal troubles, difficulties, anxieties that I have, I am prepared to sacrifice for your sake provided you have 'TRUST' in me. I do not want to say why. You should have that in me. The man who built the house knows the difficulty and the man who has made the pot knows the difficulty of making it but not others. It is very easy to break it but the difficulty of the construction of the same must be realised. If we want to come forward, discipline is most essential. If you show the same loyalty, enthusiasm, cooperation and belief, I will show that this Kolar Gold Fields Labour Sangham is taken as a model Sangham and this Sangham teaches other Sanghams morals and many other things beside them. If you are ready to show the same cooperation, show that now and say thrice 'READY'.

There was unanimous response from the crowd THRICE.

It is most appreciable that the mining Superintendents of all the four mines have showed their willingness to accept the grant of the Union. I humbly request them on your behalf on this occasion to kindly cooperate with us. I am eager to invite all high personages to open each labour Union. One by Sri A.V. Ramanathan, the other by Sri Mirza and the others by the Superintendents of some mines here.

There will be election later for office bearers and you know there will be re-election every year. In the lower house of the legislature two seats are given for

But for the Upper House one seat is given

Bangalore and Kolar labourers. and I have requested a seat for the upper House may be taken from this area this year.

I want to finish off my speech. I have got much work at Madras. Many Secretaries of the Sangham have come here and they want me there. I will be staying here only to-morrow- There may be a general meeting here tomorrow if sanction is accorded and if it is made convenient I will much like to speak to each mine labourers by the side of their respective mines.

To-day I have received a telegram from your Secretary K.C. Phillips praying for a successful meeting (cheers).

Lastly I request you to disperse without giving way for any remarks.

At this time, a model of Edgars' Shaft made of Silver was presented to Sri P.R.K. Sharma on behalf of the Kolar Gold Fields Labourers.

Shanmugham ~~Sangham~~ got up and said that he is immensly pleased to find all the mine-out labourers in the midst of their rejoicings.

Perumal of Champion Reefs gave three cheers to their leader and the Mysore Samasthan.

The meeting dispersed.

***

" COPY "

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

NR/-

Proceedings of the meeting held at the ground at 7-30 p.m. (opposite to Marikuppam Police Station).

***

Gathering about 150 - half of them women folk.

The meeting commenced at 7-30 p.m. and closed at 8 p.m.

***

First Indraraj introduced to the audience Sri P.R.K. Sharma as the one who has sacrificed his life for the sake of the labourers. Similarly he introduced Ramji, Acharaya and Shanmugam as the very persons that were helpful for the formation of the unions in this area.

A small boy sang the song attached herewith where-in gratitude and appreciation for their leader were shown.

Then Sri P.R.K. Sharma got up amidst cheers and stated that this was a remarkable and unforgettable place for him in his life because it was at this place that he was served with notice when he visited last. He asked them to forget this and said that he was much indebted to them for their enthusiasm and earnestness. He said that in view of the grant of the unions to them, he had to take leave as he got much work. He promised to see them again and speak in detail for a long time.

The meeting dispersed after three cheers were given to His Highness, the Mysore Government and to their leader.

There was no breach of the peace.

***

" COPY "

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

NR/-

IN THE COURT OF THE SPECIAL FIRST CLASS MAGISTRATE,
KOLAR GOLD FIELDS

* *

License is granted to the Representatives of K.G.F. labourers noted in the margin.

1. To conduct a procession for taking out Mr. P.R.K. Sharma in a bullock cart with seven pairs of bullocks on 31-8-41, between 9.a.m. and 12 noon, the procession to form and start from Lakshmisagara and to proceed along Krishnaraja Road from near the Brick factory and to Robertsonpet Bus-stand via five lights at Nandydroog and Kennedy shaft and Avenue Road and

2. to hold a public meeting of the labourers of K.G.F. area at the Gymkhana grounds, oorgaum with arrangements for installing a loud-speaker, for the purpose of presenting an address to Mr. P.R.K. Sharma, between the hours 3-30 P.M. and 5.P.M.

The following conditions are imposed both for the conduct of the procession as well as the meeting.

1. No flags or placards of any kind with any emblems or slogans thereon, except the Mysore flag or the respective banners of the labour unions should be carried or exhibited.

2. No political or party slogans should be uttered.

3. No room should be given for any disturbance or breach of peace. The Representatives will be held individually and collectively responsible for any unseemly or disorderly behaviour by any of the members both during the procession as well as at the meeting.

4. The processionists and the organisers and members of the meeting should conform to all rules and regulations and reasonble directions that may be given from time to time by the police.

287

Given under my hand and the seal of this court, this 30th day of August 1941.

SD/- K.SRINIVASAN
Special 1st class Magistrate,
Kolar Golf Fields

Champion Reefs
Dated 30-8-41.

MARGIN

1. Kanniappan, Mysore Mine.
2. Sundraraj -do-
3. D.Moses. -do-
4. M.C.Perumal Champion Reefs
5. A.Gnanamany, -do-
6. S.Mahimanathan, -do-
7. D.C.Mani -do-
8. V.P.Raju -do-
9. A.Erudian, Electric Department
10. N.Saravanan -do-
11. T.Singaram -do-
12. S.C.Ganapathi. Champion Reefs
13. K.Rayappan Oorgaum
14. D.C.Kandaswamy, do
15. A.M.Perumal, Oorgaum
16. K.Joseph, Nandydroog
17. M.Doriraj, do
18. K.Gopalan, do Hon. Secy. Reception. Committee, K.G.F. Labour Union.

* * *

MR/-

" C O P Y "

Spl.Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields

WELCOME ADDRESS
to
Kolar Gold Fields Labourers Sangham leader Sri P.R.K. Sharma.
by
Kolar Gold Fields labourers on Sunday the 31-8-41.

***

Ever smiling personage,

Our mind is immersed in the vast flood of rejoicings when the South Indian labourers praise of you in one voice as the one who is capable of changing the depressed happy, by showing your smiling face and conversing with them in sweet tamil language and bring solace to the labourers who are depressed due to their mental agony.

Your presence in our midst makes us immersed in our inexpressible rejocings still more.

Untiring in sacrific, Oh noble soul!

How can it be possible for us to describe even when the most learned men fail to deseribe your sacrifice that you had done for our betterment in life. From the time you left Madras, till now you did not take proper food, You did not care for your health, and you shuddered to think of the troubles of K.G.F. labourers. Your sacrifice, your endeavours, your eagerness, your sympathy over us here, the patient, timely and the excellent way in which you have represented our grienvances to the most benign Mysore Government thus ending in our benefits will be a matter of unforgetfullness and will be written in Gold letters in the history of the Gold Fields.

Our hearts, the hearts of the mining labourers that were as children without their mothers, sugar canes in the mouth of grinding machines, frogs in the mouth of snakes are blossomed with great pleasure, and your presence amidst us makes us stand as a lotus blossoms at a rising sun.

We humbly place our gratefulness to you for the sacrifices you have done for and for having established the Sangham amidst the labourers who were upholding till now

the leaders' word that Sangham will do what gold cannot do and that Sangham alone is the medium of their solace.

Oh! leader who has come down to Gold Fields!!

It is our eagerness that this Sangham should pave a path to India under the able and well-experienced leadership. May His Almighty bless us to enable us to fulfil our eagerness, to give you long and healthy life and to make the labourers worth sincerity and truthfullness. May Mysore Samasthan grow.

We take this occasion to remind every one of you that we have not forgotten elderly men and brothers for the inexpressible troubles that they took on behalf of the labourers.

Yours

Kolar Gold Field Labourers,KGF

***

" COPY "

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

IR/-

Kolar Gold Fields Labourers!

Beware! Beware!

Your leader Sri Sharma has joined with the capitalists and the authorities.

***

It is well known to the labour class the Mysore Emergenc Labour Legislation is the out come of thesacrifices by the K.G.F. labourers.

Companions! Though the legislation is welcome, Sec. 7 (Cl) (E) 24, 8 of the legislation as described by Sri K.T. Bashyam and published in the Hindu dated 26th would have been seen by you. In addition to this this has been published in the Kannada paper dated 24th. As a result of this, Sri Bashya is in Jail. But your leader Sharma has accepted this legislation on your behalf. Hence Prohibitory order imposed on him has been removed and on 26th that has been passed and brought into an Act. You have ~~proved~~ paved a way for a split among the labourers by permitting sri Sarma into the Mysore State who has become a slave at the hands of the authorities.

Is it just to have dancing festivities in your house wher a death has occurred at the next door? Oh companions; you have kissing the most poisonous snakes; It is very difficult to save ourselves after the poison reaches our veins; If we tak pains to ~~see~~ prevent poison from entering into the body we ca live long. Your sarma has dug a pit for your rights you have lost your birth ri ht. Who is sharma? What sort of ma is he? you will come to know of these theings soon. If you have any doubt, collect this information from the sanghams of Madras, Ranipet, Thiruvottiur. Where ever he is, there will be two sanghams- Capitalist Sangham and labour Sangham; So Awake; Beware; Becareful; do not sleep; do not be ruined; (1) Why was Sri Bashyam arrested (2) Why was prohibitary order against Sarma removed (3) Why was Ramalingham mined out? (Ref. Hindu, page 2, dated 28-8-41.

" Labourers Beware "

" C O P Y "

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Golf Fields

A PLEA TO KOLAR GOLD FIELD LABOURERS.

Companions! Our thanks are due to you at the time when you are happy due to your success in your achievement and endeavours. You have achieved the right of possessing a Sangham for which we all struggled. Legislation too has been passed. The Government have permitted our leader to enter the Gold Fields to work out the Sanghams. Even the mine-out labourers are in your midst. It is certain that some more troubles that they are facing, will be over. Our leader is visiting the fields next Sunday. You will be seeking a way for our presence also there in case you give suitable reception to our leader and work the Sangham as per regulations. Even though we are not able to take part in your rejoicing, we send our appreciation and thanks to you.

Long live the Unity of the Kolar Gold Fields Labourers!
Long live labour legislation!
Long growth to labour Sanghams!
Let there be peace in the labourers ! Ever!

Kuppam.
31-8-41.
Standard Press Madras.

Your beloved companions
S.R. Shanmugam.
K.C. Phillips.

***

" COPY "

Spl. Superintendent of Police.

NR-

219

N. PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent ofPolice.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 1st Sept. 1941.

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports, I beg to state that it is reported that this day (30-8-41) morning Mahimanadan and two others approached the Chief Mining Agent Mr. Edward and requested him on behalf of the coolies to grant them leave to-morrow so that they could attend the meeting arranged to be held under the Presidentship of Mr. P.R.K. Sharma. The Chief mining Agent seems to have replied that he could not grant leave to all of them and that the afternoon shift coolies may arrange amongst themselves to attend to work both for the morning and night shifts for to-morrow instead of afternoon shift. Then the labourers asked him to give permission to hold a meeting at Gymkhana ground, Oorgaum for which he replied that they may approach the Superintendent of Marikuppam who is incharge of it. Then they all went to work.

The morning Shift coolies of Gifford Shaft, Champion Reef likewise demanded a holiday for to-morrow with pay. Mr. Edwards seems to have replied that he cannot grant them leave nor can he grant permission to hold the meeting at the Gymkhana ground as he was not incharge of it. Similarly about 1000 coolies of Marikuppam requested the Chief Mining Agent and they got the same reply.

It is further reported that the labourers are going to present Mr. P.R.K. Sharma a model of Edgar's shaft made of silver, in honour of of his arrival at K.G.F. He is said to be hoisting a flag probably Labour flag at 7-30 a.m. tomorrow at Rallabudugur and the procession will start at 9 a.m. from Lakshmisagar. He then addressed a meeting at Jerkee maidan at 3-30 p.m.

A copy of the English translation of the notice issued in this respect is enclosed herewith for kind perusal.

Yours sincerely,

SD/- N. PUTTARANGASWAMY,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,(Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

NR/-

Copies in duplicate, forwarded with compliments, to the Superintendent of Police, Special Branch in Mysore, Bangalore.

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

NOTICE REGARDING RECEPTION TO BE GIVEN TO
SRI SHARMA.
***

Kolar Gold Field Labour brothers,

The representative of the labourers ~~of~~ and our Sangham President Sri P.R.K. Sharma, B.A.,M.L.A., is to be brought in procession on Sunday the 31st August 41 As there will be a meeting all are requested to grace the occasion by their attendence. This is done in order to welcome our leader; to show our gratitude to Mysore Government for having taken off the prohibitory order that was imposed upon him and to welcome the emergency labour legislation of 1941.

PROGRAMME.

Morning 7-30 Flag Hoisting at Budugur.
9-00 Commencement of procession from Lakshmisagar.
11-15 End of the procession.

Evening 3-30 General meeting at Jirkee maidan
(1) Introductory Remarks by the President.
(2) Welcome address by the Chairman of the Reception committee Mr. S. Rayappan.
(3) Reading of welcome address -
(4) Address by Sri Sharma
(5) Concluding Remarks of the President.
(6) National Anthem.

***

K. GOPAL,
Reception Committee,
Secretary.

Immanuel Press.

" COPY "

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

NR/-

781

D. O. No. 5/41-42/SB.
Encl. (2)

E. G. B. PEEL, Esq., C.I.E.,
Inspector-General of Police
in Mysore.

DEVANAHALLI OFFICE
OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR LAW
No. 1961
No. 2289

CB 585
BANGALORE

September 6, 194

My dear Kesavaiengar.

I enclose for the information of Government a copy of a report No. C.C.20/40-41 dated September 5, 1941 received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, regarding the activities of the labourers in K.G.F.

Yours
[signature]

Subd.
Mr Chengalraya Reddy's alleged activities are harmful.

Law Minister
[signature]

DMS
8/9/41

[signature]
8/9

DMS 8/9/41
[illegible] 8/9

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secy. to the Govt. of His Highness
The Maharaja of Mysore.

2

MSM.

N. PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 5th September 194

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous report I beg to state that it is reported that about 50 coolies working in the Cooling Plant of Nandydro mine approached the Superintendent of the mine t morning and represented that they are working ir the Cooling Plant for the past 2 years but have nc been given any bonus so far. The Superintendar replied that because they are all temporary, the are not entitled to the bonus, and directed them to approach the Engineer Mr. Bradford. The cool accordingly approached the Engineer who replied that their names have been registered in the Company and they will be absorbed in due course as and when vacancies occur, when they will be entitled to the bonus asked for. The coolies would not listen to ~~them~~ him and said that they woul strike work. They did not go for work and are hovering near the Time Office.

It is ascertained on enquiry that the coolies were getting 5½ annas before they were entertained on the temporary work in the erecti of the Cooling Plant and that they are now being paid seven annas. It was also expressly understood that when they were taken on this job they were not entitled to and would not be given any bonus. It is also learnt that there was only work for these coolies in the Cooling Plant for only 15 days more and that in any case they woul have been removed after that time.

It is ascertained that Mr. Ramanujam of Madras who had come with Mr. Sharma on the 3 August 1941 is proposed as the President for th Oorgaum mine Union and that Govindarajalu of

388

Oorgaum mine would be the Vice-President. It is also gathered that they propose to have Mr. Chengalrai Reddy as the President of Champion Reef mine Union and that Lakshmana Mudaliar is proposed for the Vice-President's place in that Union. It is said that Mahimanathan of Champion Reef mine would be the Secretary for the said Union. There is information that some persons from Champion Reef mines had gone to Bangalore three days back to meet Mr. Changalrai Reddy and request him to accept the Presidentship of the Champion Reef mine Union. Mr. Chengalrai Reddy is said to have told them that he will not accept the Presidentship until Sec. 17 of the Mysore Mines Act is removed and that he advised them further to organise a Satyagraha in all the mines selecting about 30 or 40 persons from each mine to fight for the removal of the Section 17 of the Mysore Mines Act. Full details are not available and attempts will be made to get more detailed information.

Further developments are being watched and will be duly reported.

Yours sincerely,

SD/- N. PUTTARANGASWAMY,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,(Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

Copies in duplicate, forwarded with compliments, to the Superintendent of Police, Special Branch in Mysore, Bangalore.

Puttaranga
- 5/9

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

5/9

765/CB

GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE

Telegraphic Address

OFFICE OF

THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, KCL...

No. C.C.27/40-41.
Encls. 2

Date Kolar the 8th Septembe

To

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesaviengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to Government of
H.H. the Maharaja of Mysore, Bangalore.

Sir,

CS. MS 9/9

I have the honour to forward herewith for information copies of C.C.Nos.20/40-41, dated 5/9/41 and 6/9/41, receiv from the Special Superintendent of Police, K.G.F., regardin the labour situation on the Fields.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

S. Nanjundaiah

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
KOLAR DISTRICT.

vkm.4.

N. [illegible], M.A., B.
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reef,
Dated 6th September 1941.

CC.30/41-41.

(9)

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my report of yesterday, I beg to state that on a further representation made by the coolies of the Coalfing Plant Kendydroog mines for grant of at least the increase of Rs.16/- in bonus recently granted to the other coolies, the Superintendent seems to have replied that he would consider the matter. All the coolies of the Coalfing Plant went to work this morning.

On 6-9-1941 Mr. Edwards, Underground Agent, Champion Reef asked the coolies working under Contract Mr. Dhanapal of Champion Reef not to come for work on the ground that their work was not satisfactory as observed by him for the past one month. These coolies are said to have represented their grievances to Kuppuswamy who is proposed to be the Secretary of the Champion Reef Union. Further they are said to be waiting at the Mineral Office to meet the Agent himself to represent their grievances to him.

Further developments will be watched and will be duly reported.

Yours sincerely,

[illegible]

[illegible], Esq., M.A., (Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

2/9

226

Superintendent of Police.

S.Ch/A-41.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 4th September 1941.

593

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports, I beg to state that it is reported that about 60 coolies working in the Cooling Plant of Randgydroog mine approached the Superintendent of the mine this morning and represented that they are working in the Cooling Plant for the past 2 years but have not been given any bonus so far. The Superintendent replied that because they are all temporary, they are not entitled to the bonus, and directed them to approach the Engineer Mr. Bradford. The coolies accordingly approached the Engineer who replied that their names have been registered in the Company and they will be absorbed in due course as and when vacancies occur, when they will be entitled to the bonus asked for. The coolies would not listen to him and said that they would strike work. They did not go for work and are hovering near the Time Office.

It is ascertained on enquiry that these coolies were getting 6 annas before they were entertained on the temporary work in the erection of the Cooling Plant and that they are now being paid seven annas. It was also expressly understood that when they were taken on work, as they were not entitled to and would not be given any bonus. It is also learnt that there was only work for these coolies in the Cooling Plant for only 2 days more and that in any case they would have been removed after that time.

It is ascertained that Mr. [illegible] of Madras who had come with Mr. [illegible] on the 1st August 1941 is proposed as the agent for the Kargam Mine Union and that Devindarajalu of

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [

D. O. No. 5/41-42/SB. Encl.(1).

595

E. G. B. PEEL, Esq., C.I.E.,
Inspector-General of Police
in Mysore.

BANGALORE

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR LAW
SEP 9 1941
No 2349

September 7, 1941.

I enclose for the information of Government a copy of a letter No. C.C.20/40-41 dated September 6, 1941 received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, regarding the activities of the labourers in K.G.F.

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secy. to the Govt. of His Highness
The Maharaja of Mysore, Bangalore.

299

N. PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 6th September 41.

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my report of yesterday, I beg to state that on a further representation made by the coolies of the Cooling Plant Nandydroog mines for grant of at least the increase of Re.1/- in bonus recently granted to the other coolies, the Superintendent seems to have replied that he would consider the matter. All the coolies of the Cooling Plant went to work this morning.

On 5-9-1941 Mr. Edwards, Underground Agent, Champion Reef asked the coolies working under Contractor Mr. Dhanapal of Champion Reef not to come for work on the ground that their work was not satisfactory as observed by him for the past one month. These coolies are said to have represented their grievances to Mahimanathan who is proposed to be the Secretary of the Champion Reef Union. Further they are said to be waiting at the General Office to meet the Agent himself and represent their grievances to him.

Further developments watched and will be duly reported.

Yours sincerely,

SD/- N. PUTTARANGASWAMY,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,(Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

Copies in duplicate, forwarded with compliments, to the Superintendent of Police, Special Branch in Mysore, Bangalore.

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

SECRET

D. O. No. 5/41-42/83 (Cycle 1 Sep.)

788 J 79
CB

E. G. B. PEEL, Esq., C.I.E.,
Inspector-General of Police
in Mysore.

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR LAW
SEP 11 1941
No 2/415

BANGALORE

Dated September 10, 4

My dear Kesavaiengar,

I enclose for the information of Government a copy of a report No. C.C. 20/40-41 dated 8th September 1941 received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, regarding the activities of Messrs. K. Chengalraya Reddi an N.C. Thimma Reddi at Kolar Gold Fields.

Yours
Peel

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesavaiengar, Esq., B,A.,
Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Mysore,
Bangalore.

2

N. PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

CC.20/40-41.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 8th September

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous :
I beg to state that it is reported that Mes
Ramalingam and Acharya ~~of Madras~~ came here
on 6-9-41 and were received by Dorairaj of Nandydroog mine and Narayanaswami of Mysore mines. They both messed in the Malabar Lodge at Robertsonpet and after visiting Nandydroog mine Union office, they went to Electric Department Union Office at Robertsonpet to halt for the night.

Tamil printed notices dated 5-9-41 printed at the Select Printing Works, Bangalore and issued by Mr. Thimma Reddy in the name of the Mysore Congress Parlimentary Sub Committee ~~was~~ were found distributed on 7-9-41 in all the Cooly lines. The notice referred to the Legislati~~on~~ve Assembly on behalf of the labourers of Bangalore City and K.G.F. and recommends one Rama Doss - an employee in the Bangalore Maharaja Mills and a congressite for the seat. It also says that the labourers as also the congressites are undergoing much difficulties and ~~and~~ particularly stresses that Sec. 17 Mysore Mines Act which makes a labourer a begger inspite of his hard work at the mines, must be destroyed ~~betrayed~~ first. The date of election is said to be 14-9-1941. Copy of the English Translation of the same is enclosed herewith for kind perusal.

Mr. N.C. Thimma Reddy came to this place on the morning of 7-9-41 with Venkatesh of Binny Mills and another and after alighting at the Oorgaum Railway Station he went with his two friends to the house of Mr. Venkatarama Reddy, brother of Mr. Chengalrai Reddy. Subsequently about 20

coolies are said to have gone to him and they were having a secret talk with him.

In the evening (on 7-9-41) Mr. Chengalraya Reddy came from Kyasamballa and he along with Messrs. N.C. Thimma Reddy and Venkatesh hoisted a congress flag in the maidan near the Robertsonpet Travellers' Bungalow with a view to organise a meeting and address a gathering of labourers. As it was a Shandy day the passers-by began to gather until about 600 or 700 labourers assembled. Later the gathering swelled up to 1000 persons. A copy of the English version of the speeches delivered is enclosed for favour of perusal.

It is gathered that Messrs. Chengalraya Reddy, N.C. Thimma Reddy and Venkatesh met the Committee members of the several mines on the field with a view to make Anthony who is a candidate for the Legislative Council to sign a congress pledge in order that they may back him up as a congress candidate and withdraw the candidature of Ramadoss of Bangalore. It is also gathered that they have not as yet arrived at any definite decision in regard to this matter. Messrs. K. Chengalraya Reddy and N.C. Thimma Reddy seem to have delivered an ultimatum to the labour leaders on the field that if they do not make Anthony sign the congress pledge and make him stand for the Legislative Council on congress ticket they are going to contest the election and organise meetings every day to turn all the labourers against them and to force them to give their vote to the congress.

It is also ascertained that the speeches of these congress leaders were very impressive and that this opportunity has been availed of by small

sections of labourers in Mysore and Champion Reef mine who are congress minded and who are followers of Ramalingam and Lakshmana Mudaliar to sow discord among the majority of labourers and carry on malicious propaganda against the Government and Mr. P.R.K. Sharma and his followers with regard to non-publication of Mr. Mathan's report. They are also circulating a rumour that Mr. P.R.K. Sharma is bribed by Government heavily and that he is a Government man who should not be trusted.

In addition the marginally noted eight persons came to me yesterday afternoon and asked for permission to conduct public meetings on the score that congress which is a political party is trying to get hold of important positions in the Unions to be now constituted with a view to exploit labour for gaining their own political ends for their party and that therefore they want to disabuse the minds of the labourers in this connection by exposing the evils that congress as a political party would do to labourers by creating unnecessary unrest. Besides this there is also a justice party with some following on the field.

1. T.R. Sekharan, Champion Rf.
2. C. Ganapthy, do
3. M. Armugam, do
4. C. Venkatachalam, N'droog
5. C.I. Andhi, Marikuppam.
6. S.M. Muthuswamy, do
7. V. Muniswamy, N'droog
8. R.M. Swamy, do

I also wish to mention here the fact that the speeches of Messrs. Thimma Reddy and Chengalraya Reddy are calculated to incite hatred in the minds of the labourers towards their employers and also to inculcate racial hatred. Besides, there is an indirect reference to the present War and a hint that there should be no help or assistance rendered for the prosecution of the War. In the interests of the Mining Industry and with a view

to maintain law and order and in the i
the War effort on the field, it is necessary in my opinion to ban all further meetings organised by members of the Mysore Congress party for a period of six months either under section 39 of the Mysore Police Act or under rule 56 of the Defence of India rules as applied to Mysore. I also consider it necessary to serve a notice on Mr. Chengalraya Reddy under Section 17 M.M. Act in the interests of the Mining Industry and also on Mr. Thimma Reddy if he chooses to come here again.

Messrs. Thimma Reddy and Venkatesh are reported to have left K.G.F. to Bangalore this morning but Mr. Chengalraya Reddy is staying at Robertsonpet. I have arranged for Mr. Chengalraya Reddy to meet you this evening at K.G.F. as per your instructions.

It is gathered that Rayappan of Oorgaum and Mr. Acharaya of Bangalore who is here have sent telegrams to Messrs. P.R.K. Sharma at Madras and Ramji at Bangalore to come to K.G.F. immediately as they apprehend that the speeches of the congress leaders have tended to influence the audience badly and has tended to create a split in them. No doubt the promises to secure a minimum wage of 0-12-0 a day with better conforts together with the removal of Section 17 Mysore Mines Act are very attractive and will certainly lure away the ignorant and illiterate labourers and create unrest on the field besides inculcating hatred against Government. Mr. P.R.K. Sharma is asked in the telegram to come by express train today and Mr. Ramji immediately. Further developments will be watched and duly reported.

As it is likely that the Mysore State Congress will arrange meetings immediately on or after the 9th instant after the time regarding the ultimatum expires, I request the favour of immediate instructions regarding the Prohibitory Orders to prevent these meetings referred to by me above.

Yours sincerely,
SD/- N. PUTTARANGASWAMY,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,(Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

NR/-

Copies in duplicate forwarded, with compliments, to the Superintendent of Police, Special Branch in Mysore, Bangalore.

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.
8/9

306

Proceedings of the meeting held at the Jerky Grounds behind Travellers' Bungalow at about 5½.15 p.m.

***

There was a gathering of about 1000 labourers and a congress flag was hoisted in the middle just near the Chair of Thimma Reddy. Mr. K.Chengalraya Reddy presided.

One Venkatesh, Secretary, Bangalore Binny Mills Labour Union spoke first.

Brothern! You are all aware why we have met here today and you are all also aware that formation of labou union has been sanctioned by the Government. But you do not know the attending dangers of forming such labour unions which are going to be started on the fields. You are having 4 labour unions for 4 different mines. Each will be independent of the other. If one Labour Union accords sanction to strike, only one mine should strike and not the rest. The Hon. members of one union are tabooed to meet and consult with the other Hon. members of other unions. Section 17 Mysore Mines Act is not applied to Europeans who have come from 17,000 miles and who were starving in England for food but it is being freely used to expel our own brothern, brothern who are born here, who are going to die here and what is more what we earn, we are going to spend here unlike the former who send away major portion of their pay to England. The Presidents that are going to be elected for the Labour Unions must be congressman and they must be the members of the Mysore Congress. The leaders of the Mysore Congress are here with us to render all support. Including the Brick Making Co., there will be five mines at K.G.F. You will have to elect ten Honorary members, when you are electing them, you will have to elect only Mysore Congress man. When you are voting for the members to the Representative Assembly

30

and Legislative A Council. You will all please vote only for the congress. He concluded his speech after having thanked the audience for their patient hearing.

Mr. N.C. Thimma Reddy spoke next. He spoke in Telugu which was translated to Tamil by Venkatesh.

Borthern! We wanted to conduct meetings like this and guide you on right lines but unfortunately the Government promlgated Section 17 against us. We have striven hard, night and day ever since 3 years and at last we have succeeded and we are in your midst. If we had only the blessings of God, we would have seen the congress flag flying over all the mines. That is not to be and I do not know when it is to come. If we want to arrange a public meeting of the labourers, the Government will promulgate Section 17 M.M. Act. This is our land. This is our Highness Dominion. Nobody can claim better rights or little in this land than us having been born and bread up here. Inspite of this, the coercive action of the Government is unjustifiable. You are aware that very recently the Government booked Mr. K.T. Bhashyam under Public Security Act in the recent Binny Mill disturbances and sent him to Jail. I ask 'Is this just?' I challenge the Government if they could say that they are right in enforcing Section 17 Mysore Mines Act against us. We fight for an legitimate rights and previleges. Are we to be banned by Section 17 for this right struggle. Is the Government justified. Does it not speak ill of the administration of the Government. Profit of six crores of Rupees ins realised from the K.G.F. mines. Value of one Sovereign gold is Rs.30/- You are all getting 0-8-0 per day and if you ask for one anna rise in wages Section 17 M.M. Act comes into force. When they are realising such fabulous profits from the mines, it is but natural for us to ask 50 % of the profits.

Whose fault is this - I ask. Is it the fault of the capitalists or the fault of the Government? Why not they Government enforce Defence of India Act against the capitalist. You must be reading in papers about the war and this is the third year of the war. If the Britishers are to win, if they want our whole hearted support, it is for them to help us first and then take our services. The mining authorities should pay you all 50 % of your pay as war allowance without which you will have to starve in course of time consequent on the inflation of rates in food-stuffs. You need not be afraid of Section 17 M.M. Act. As soon as congress flag is hoisted Section 17 automatically 'runs away'. In case Section 17 M.M. Act is used again, we know how to wipe it away. With all this if the Government by taking coercive force and action automatically passes Section 17 M.M. Act. If we remain united and cry in one voice "DOWN WITH SEC.17 M.M. ACT", the Government cannot do anything. It cannot even lift up its little finger against us. If the Government is anxious to go on amicably with the congress the Government ought to select the presidents of each labour union from the Mysore Congress and when sending members to the Legislative Council the Government should send congress members to the Legislative Council from the fields. Mr. Anthony is now selected. If Mr. Anthony joins the congress and works for the congress it would be very good. Besides which I request you all to vote for congress. We have decided to meet at 8 p.m. and discuss as to the members. There are 6000 votes at K.G.F. We have already secured 1500 votes from the Binny Mills. There are 110 congress members in the Representative Assembly and ever since 2 years, They are fighting in the Representative Assembly for the removal of this hideous and nepotic section. If you all vote for congress,

307

Congress will have a better and a major voice in the House. Congress is an organisation meant only for the poor and its prime object is to redress the grievances of the poor. I am glad that at such short notices, there is fairly good gathering but we will announce early the next meeting and I hope there will be large gathering. I thank you all for the hearing, You have given me and I request you once more all of your to vote for congress.

Mr. K. Chengalraya Reddy spoke next. Brothern, I do not know Tamil. You cannot understand Kanrese or Telugu which I know. Even then I am delighted to see you and be in your midst hence I wish to speak only for a few minutes. I will learn tamil and you all try to learn kanarese. I am a native of Mysore, my village Kyasamballa is close by to your fields. About 14 of us all Mysore Congressmen came on 14th August 1939 to hold meetings here. But the Government was pleased to invoke the aid of Section 17 against us. But with all that, we were sending about 100 congress volunteers regularly from Bangalore. About 3000 of our congressmen went to Jail at that juncture. You did not help us at that time. I did not like to come here. I did not also like to address you. But some of your men actually forced me and dragged me here hence I had to come. I am not happy now. When I am addressing you I am not at peace. It is because Section 17 M.M. Act is still in force against the other 13 congressmen who had accompanie me during August 1939. But I will fight with all may strength and will soon bring them back here. Section 17 of the M.M. Act is primarily intended and it was the attention of the framers of the

Act also, to prevent smuggling of gold. Section 17 of the M.M. Act is meant and meant only for smugglers of Gold. Time has come when the Section has been freely used against the innocent labourers also. Whoever comes forward to do some good to the poor labourers is greeted with Section 17 M.M. Act. Government must remove this section as early as it can otherwise I am afraid this will end in disaster.* of continuance of Section 17 in the Mysore Mines Act. I feel very sorry in spite of the agitation, inspite of the ~~true~~ tears and cry that is raised, the Government has not cared and has in fact slept over this. If the Government do not take back the section, I am afraid there won't be peace (ಶಾಂತಿ) among the workers. No doubt the Government withdrew Section against Mr. Sharma but immediately after that Mr. Ramalingam became the next victim. Not being satisfied, Mr. Lakshmana Mudaliar who was responsible for your Union who has sacrificed much more than any of us, had to pay the toll of Section 17 M.M. Act. It will create panic among the labourers. Continuance or removal of Section 17 M.M. Act remains in your hands. If you all remain united and cry in one voice, the Section will have to go. No mighty force can ignore the voice of all the labourers. Hence you should all remain united brushing aside petty differences. You are all aware that Mr. Mathan was deputed by the Government to look to your grievances and ~~publish~~ submit a report regarding your conditions. I have reliable information that Mr. Mathan in his report has recommended the abolition of Section 17 M.M. Act. It is over three months that Mr. Mathan sent up his report to the Government. What is the reason, I ask, that is keeping the Government from publishing Mr. Mathan's report. It is perhaps because that the Government

* Very recently I have also given a statement to the press about the consequent disaster.

911

are afraid that the labourers will have better claims hence they are purposely keeping back the report. I challenge to-day that if the Government do not publish Mr. Mathan's report Verbatum shortly, I will publish all the 30 or 40 points which are embodied in his report. I have very credible information about the contents of the report and I will take the risk of publishing his report and I will also see that every labourers of this K.G.F. will have such a copy in Tamil. Nobody in this world suffer more than you for which you are paid starving wages. When the company is making 50 to 60 % profit, I ask why should they not keep you in comfort. I am given to understand that an underground cooly gets 0-9-0 and Surface cooly 0-7-0. After this long strike, you have an increase of one anna. There are similar Gold mines in South Africa. Ordinary cooly gets Rs.2/4/- and skilled labourers get 5 to 6 rupee per day. Here, to give one anna enhancement, the mining authorities actually cry. They have made crores of rupees. To give increase of 0-0-6 (ಆರು ಕಾಸು ಕೊಟ್ಟರು)! It is for you to judge whether it is right or wrong. Congress fights only for this, to lessen your grievances, to place you above want. I would suggest surface coolies to be paid 0-9-0 underground 0-12-0 and skilled labourers atleast Re.1 start. The company will not loose by this. What depresses one most is that there are no promotions at regular intervals. You are started on 0-7-0, You entire and die on 0-7-0 per day It is unlike other companies, for instance, in the Binny Mills and Railway Workshops, there are fixed promotions at regular intervals. Your promotions depends on the sweat will of your boss. If you want more pay, you are dismissed without enquiry. It is for that I ask you to be united. You are not given leave and even if you are granted leave by the time you return back from your far away homes, you find that you are dismissed.

There is no appeal. In fact everything is ~~choose~~ chaos and no order and no law and nothing governs the mining authorities. We will talk of Europeans. They get 600 to 700 rupees. They have free quarters. Even though you get 0-8-0 you have to pay Rupee one house rent. They want pay anything. Their lighting charges is met by the mines. Their furniture is supplied. They have attendence bonus and provident fund and have fifteen days leave in a year. They can go home and come back once in two years with full pay. Look at the contrast. Are they directly descended from Heaven. A man who earns 600/- does not pay rent - a man who earns Rs.15/- pays one rupee rent. Is this fair I ask. Will God be pleased. Is there no retribution. If you put forth these honest solid fact there is Section 17 and you are out within 24 hours. God knows where to go and what to do. My heart burns at the gross injustice meted out to you. One thing - that is the most imporatant thing is, if you stand united, face them boldly in one voice, you get equal rights and priveleges The Service gratutity and Workmen's compensation I can dare say, are all eye-washes and never sincere attempts to pay you. They are all bogus ~~are~~ one. The mining doctor tests you and passes you on. He is an employee of the mines at the beck and call of the mining authorities. What justice can we get from him. They ought to appoint an outsider and the Government should send a doctor. Even this, I hear, is embodied in Mr. Mathan's report but cunningly enough, the Government is keeping back the report with an ulterior motive. There want ~~to~~ be peace among the labourers till Mr. Mathan's report is published. By giving you different and independent unions to each mine, I am afraid, the Government has taken up the policy of "~~dineler~~ divide and rule" You cannot strike unless you pass on all the formalities

You cannot influence other mines to strike. If you do so, you go to jail for 15 days with fine of Rs.25/- The congress is meant to redress all these grievances. The congress of Mysore has sacrified all along for the poor people and has ultimately won its recognition. It is through the congress that you can hope to redress every grievance ~~of~~ and congress stands for the poor. It is synonymous with poverty. You all please vote for the congress. We are meeting the Central Committee members this night in order to elect candidates and to discuss about the candidates of Mr. Ramadoss and Anthony. I finally hope that we come to amicable settlement. The result will be communicated to you through a public meeting. I request you all to vote for the congress.

The meeting terminated at 7-20 p.m. with cries of Jais to Mr. Mathan, Giri, Sharma and K.C. Reddy and Thimma Reddy.

***

" COPY "

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

NR/-

re
8/9

34

VANDE MATHARAM.

MYSORE CONGRESS PARLIMENTARY SUB COMMITTEE NOTICE.

ELECTION TO MYSORE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FOR A SEAT TO REPRESENT THE LABOURERS OF THE BANGALORE CITY AND KOLAR GOLD FIELDS.

***

There is going to be an election this Sunday the 14th of this month for the representation of a seat on behalf of Bangalore City and Kolar Gold Fields labourers at the Mysore Legislative Assembly.

Sri Ramadoss who is working in the Bangalore Maharaja Mills has been selected for this election on behalf of the Mysore Congress for the labour group. To vote for this seat, there are more than 8000 voters. But, of the 8000 voters, 7000 voters are residing in Kolar Gold Fields. The election of this candidate depends upon the votes of the Kolar Gold Fields labourers. Therefore entire responsibility lies on them.

It is a well-known fact to all the citizens that the Mysore Congress has been subjected to many loss and troubles in their struggle for the past four years in trying to establish justice in the responsible Government and to strengthen the birth-rights of the people at large.

It is the experience of all the labourers that they have been subjected to all sorts of worries in our Samasthan due to the atrocities of the capitalists. In fact, the Kolar Gold Fields labourers practically are suffering from this. In addition to this, there is the 17th Section to mine them out, which is a great burden to them. Till this Section is changed, it is not possible for any labourer to fight for his birth-right.

As per this section, 24 hours notice on him will make him a beggar inspite of his work at the mines for many years. It is a well-known fact to the people that ~~ten~~ two years ago the same section was imposed on Mysore Congress leaders and that section is still in force on 12 of them.

It is quite essential that the labourers should have it in their minds that, unless the section is destroyed, it is not beneficial to establish Sanghams and through it fulfill their aspirations.

If the Congress, the aspirations of which is to establish the birth-right of the people, succeeds, there is no doubt that the labourers too will achieve their ends soon. If the candidate who is selected now on behalf of the Congress to stand for the labour group at the recent election succeeds then it means that all the labourers wish for the destruction of the 17th section. This will pave a way for the Congress to work more enthusiastically.

Therefore, the Bangalore City labourers and particularly the Kolar Gold Fields labourers should not only give their votes to Sri Ramadoss who has stood on behalf of the Mysore Congress but also instigate others to give their votes to him thus enabling this candidate to succeed and thereby give encouragement to the Congress to work more enthusiastically and to pave the circumstances for the establishment of their own birth-rights.

Yours,

N.C. THIMMA REDDY,
President,
K.G.F. Dist. Congress Committee.

5/9-41
Select Prining
Works,
Bangalore City.

***

" COPY "

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

316

NR/-

8/9

D.O. No. 5/41-42/SB. SECRET.
Encls. (3).

E. G. B. PEEL, Esq., C.I.E.,
Inspector-General of Police
in Mysore.

BANGALORE
September 11, 12, 1941.

I enclose for the information of Government a copy of a letter No.C.C. 20/40-41 dated September 10, 1941, receive from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, regarding the issue of prohibitory order under Section 39 of the Mysore Police Act, prohibiting making of speeches at public meetings in K.G.F. mining area.

Yours
E. G. B. Peel

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T.Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to the Govt. of
H.H.the Maharaja of Mysore,
Bangalore.

running high as a result of the interference of the Mysore Congress to cause a split amongst the different communities and groups employed in K.G.F.

In view of all these developments, I apprehended breach of the peace if the meetings arranged for this evening should be allowed to take place. I therefore approached the District Magistrate, Kolar, and discussed in detail the situation with him praying for an order under Section 39 of the Mysore Police Act, preventing all public meetings by whichever party, in order to maintain law and order at the place. The District Magistrate after consideration, was pleased to pass an Order under Section 39 of the Mysore Police Act. A copy of this order is enclosed.

This order was duly published at 4 p.m. this evening and also served on Messrs. K. Changalaraya Reddy, M.C. Thimma Reddy, Venkatesh who were expected to deliver speeches at the public meeting convened for this evening. A gathering of over 3000 persons had already assembled at 4-30 or 5 p.m. The purport of the order was also explained to the gathering that had assembled and they were requested to disperse quietly. The persons in the gathering went away in groups after some time. Mr. M.C. Thimma Reddy left for Bangalore immediately after the prohibitory order was served by the police on him. It is gathered that he has been instructed by Mr. K. Changalaraya Reddy to meet Mr. K.T. Bashyam and arrange for a press statement being issued by the latter on the prohibitory Order that is issued by the District Magistrate. By 6-30 p.m., all the persons that had assembled at the meeting place had dispersed.

There has been no repercussions locally on the labour population with regard to the Prohibitory Order issued. There is neither excitement nor discussion in the cooly lines with regard to the prohibitory order. Everything is quiet. Further developments are being watched and will be duly reported.

Yours sincerely,

Sd. N. Puttaswamy

To,
S. Narayana Rao Esq.
Deputy Commissioner
Kolar

Copy forwarded w.c. to the Superintendent of Police Special Branch for information -

THE COURT OF THE DISTRICT MAGISTRATE, KOLAR DISTRICT.

Dated, Camp, Oorgaum the 10th day of September 1941.

Present:-

ayana Rao, Esq., M.A. (Hons).,
District Magistrate, Kolar Dt.

Case No. C.M.C. (Camp) 1/41-42.

ORDER UNDER SECTION 39 OF THE MYSORE POLICE ACT.

Whereas ~~xxx~~ it is seen from the sworn statement of the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, given before me to-day, that a public meeting is proposed to be held this evening at 5-30 P.M. at Harkey grounds near the Travellers' Bungalow, Robertsonpet, under the auspices of the Bangalore Labour Union, that in the light of the speeches made at the meeting organized by the same persons on the 7th instant at the same place and the programme outlined thereat, there is reason to believe that this day's meeting has been got up to support the candidature of one Ramadoss of Bangalore Maharaja Mills who has stood for election to the Legislative Council, for the Labour constituency on behalf of the Mysore Congress, that the labourers of the Field where 7000 voters of the said constituency reside as against only 1000 at Bangalore, resent this move at a time when they have been organizing their own Labour Unions under the recently promulgated Labour Act and have started organizing counter-propaganda such as public meetings, processions and black flag demonstrations and that applications are being received by the Special Superintendent of Police, K.G.F. for permission to hold meetings in opposition to the meetings of the kind proposed to be held this evening:

AND WHEREAS it is apprehended that if these meetings and processions etc. are allowed to be carried on, there is every likelihood of a breach of the peace:

I, S. NARAYANA RAO, District Magistrate, Kolar District do hereby prohibit, under Section 39 of the Mysore Police Act, in the Kolar Gold Field Mining Area and within a radius of five miles all round the making of speeches at public meetings, delivery of harangues of any kind or public,

utterances of cries slanging of songs, exhibition of symbols pictures or placards which may be of nature to inflame hostility between different classes of pepole or incite to the commission of an offence, to a disturbance of the public peace or to resistance to or contempt of the law or of a lawful authority.

I DIRECT that this order shall be in force for a month from this day and that it be duly and publicly promulgated as required by law.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THIS COURT, THIS THE TENTH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 1941.

S. NARAYANA RAO,

DISTRICT MAGISTRATE,

10/9/41.
Camp: Oorgaum.

Seal

D. O. No. 5/41-42/SB. Encls.2.

837/CB 640

E. G. B. PEEL, Esq., C.I.E.,
Inspector-General of Police
in Mysore.

BANGALORE

September 13, 1941.

My dear Kesavaiengar,

I enclose for the information of Government a copy of a report No. C.C. 20/40-41 dated 12-9-41 received from the Special Superintendent of Police, K.G.F. regarding the activities of Mr. P.R.K. SHARMA and others in Kolar Gold Fields.

Yours
E. G. B. Peel

Seen
Law Minister
15/9/41

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. KESAVAIENGAR, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secy. to the Govt. of His Highness
The Maharaja of Mysore.

MSM.

N. PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 12th September 1941.

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports, I beg to state that Messrs. P.R.K. Sharma, G. Narayanaswamy, Shanmugam and A.T. Perumal arrived at the Oorgaum Railway Station this morning and went to the Electric Department Union Office at Robertsonpet. Later, they were found to be talking together and Messrs. Ramachandraji, Acharya, Anthony and Indraraj had also joined them.

Mr. Chengalrai Reddy who had gone to Bangalore also returned to K.G.F. this morning and later by 12.45 train Mr. Thimma Reddy and another Congress worker arrived. They all went to Robertsonpet to the house of Mr. Raghava Reddy. Mr. Thimma Reddy is stated to have brought a bundle of notices, perhaps, for distribution here.

Phillips and Lakshmana Mudaliar are said to be still at Kuppam. It is ascertained that some persons had gone to Kuppam to meet Mr. P.R.K. Sharma on the way and induce him to side the congress candidate or to make Anthony sign the congress pledge. Mr. Lakshmana Mudaliar also seems to have accompanied Mr. Sharma from Kuppam to Bowringpet and asked Mr. Sharma to support the congress. Mr. Sharma seems to have refused to consent to such a proposal and is now drafting a notice to the voters at K.G.F. appealing to them to vote for their candidate Anthony. Mr. Acharya has issued another statement to the press to-day in reply to the statement issued by Mr. Bhashyam. Further develop-

Dy.

developments are being watched and will be duly reported.

Yours sincerely,

SD/- N. PUTTARANGASWAMY,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,(Hons),
NR/- Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

Copies in duplicate forwarded, with compliments, to the Superintendent of Police, Special Branch in Mysore, Bangalore.

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
NR/- Kolar Gold Fields.

324

830 V 8.38 646

GOVERNM[illegible]T OF MYSORE

Telegraphic Address

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR L[illegible]
SEP 15 19[illegible]
No. 25[illegible]

OFFICE OF

The District Magistrate,
Kolar District,
Kolar.

Date 13th September 1941.

No. C.C.27/40-41.
Encls.

To

Rajasevaprasakta [illegible] Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secre[illegible]y to Government of Mysore,
Bangalore.

Sir,

I have the honour [illegible]orward, herewith, for information, copy of D.O. letter No:C.C. 2[illegible]-41 dated 12th September 1941 - received from the Special Sup[illegible]ntendent of Police, Kolar Gold - Fields, regarding the Labour [illegible]ation on the Fields.

It is reported that Mr. Perumal who was declared elected to the Representative Assembly from the Labour Constituency and who became a member of the Mysore Congress has since resigned his Congress membership.

I have the honour to be,
S i r,
Your most obedient servant,

S. Narayana [illegible]
District Magistrate,
Kolar District.

Submit
(Law Minister)
MS 15/9
Ans 15/9
MS 16/9/41

325

M. PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 12th September 1941.

64

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports, I beg to state that Messrs. P.R.K. Sharma, G. Narayanaswamy, Shanmugam and A.T. Perumal arrived at the Oorgaum Railway Station this morning and went to the Electric Department Union Office at Robertsonpet. Later, they were found to be talking together and Messrs. Ramachandraji, Acharya, Anthony and Indraraj had also joined them.

Mr. Chengalrai Reddy who had gone to Bangalore ~~&~~ also returned to K.G.F. this morning and later by 12.45 train Mr. Thimma Reddy and another Congress worker arrived. They all went to Robertsonpet to the house of Mr. Raghava Reddy. Mr. Thimma Reddy is stated to have brought a bundle of notices, perhaps, for distribution here.

Phillips and Lakshmana Mudaliar are said to be still at Kuppam. It is ascertained that some persons had gone to Kuppam to meet Mr. P.R.K. Sharma on the way and induce him to side the congress candidate or to make Anthony sign the congress pledge. Mr. Lakshmana Mudaliar also seems to have accompanied Mr. Sharma from Kuppam to Bowringpet and asked Mr. Sharma to support the congress. Mr. Sharma seems to have refused to consent to such a proposal and is now drafting a notice to the voters at K.G.F. appealing to them to vote for their candidate Anthony. Mr. Acharya has issued another statement to the press to-day in reply to the statement issued by Mr. Bhashyam. Further develop-

326

650.

developments are being watched and will be duly reported.

Yours sincerely,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,(Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

NR/-

320

839 652
CB

GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE

Telegraphic Address

No. C.C.27/40-41.
Encls. One.

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR LAW
SEP 15 1941
No. 21-56

OFFICE OF
The District Magistrate,
Kolar District,
Kolar.

Date 14th September 1941.

To

Rajasevaprasakta B.T. Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to the Government of Mysore,
Bangalore.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward, herewith, for information, copy of D.O. letter No: C.C.20/40-41 dated 13th September 1941 received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, regarding the Labour situation in the Fields.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

S. Narayanagowda

District Magistrate,
Kolar District.

Submd
(Law minister)
15/9/41
15/9
16/9/41

N. PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 13th Sept. 1941.

CC.80/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports, regarding the labour situation here, I beg to report that Mr. F.R.K. Sharma who came here yesterday morning went to Mr. Chengalrai Reddy in the afternoon and was discussing matters with him for nearly four hours. Later in the evening Messrs. Chengalraya Reddy, Thimma Reddy, Venkatesh and Puttashankarappa are said to have gone with about 20 or 30 Champion Reef people to Naddiah's building where Mr. Sharma was staying and demanded that Mr.Sharma should take votes from the persons gathered there as to which candidate should get the votes. It is gathered that at the time there were about eight people of Mysore mine, about 30 or 40 from Champion Reef mine and 3 or 4 from Oorgaum mine. Mr.Sharma told them that if ten persons from each mine should come ~~for him to~~ he would take votes and come to a decision and he refused to take votes from the persons present as most of them were from Champion Reef mine. He also told them that he was primarily for labour and not for any political party. Then when they came out about 250 or 300 persons that had gathered outside demanded Mr. Sharma to give out his decision. Mr. Sharma told them that two candidates had stood - one Mr. Anthony from K.G.F. and another Mr. Ramadass on behalf of the Congress and that they may vote to any candidate they like as both the candidates are to contest in the election. He also told them that he would address a public meeting to-morrow if he was permitted by Government and that otherwise he will print handbills and distribute them explaining the situation. Some-one in the crowd cried that

that they should vote only for the congress candidate and no one else. At that juncture Venkatesh dropped handbills from upstairs appealing to voters to vote for Ramadas only signed by all the congress working committee members. An English Translation of this notice is enclosed.

Mr. Perumal who is elected to the Representative Assembly for K.G.F. Labour is said to have resigned from the congress and joined the Labour Unions at K.G.F. A notice explaining this is said to be under print in the press today. Another notice by Mr. P.R.K. Sharma to the labourer of K.G.F. explaining the position regarding the election to the Legislative Council and appealing to them to vote for their candidate is also said to be under print. Copies of these notices will be secured and submitted.

This morning Mr. N.C. Thimma Reddy and D. Venkatesh went to Champion Reefs with printed notices requesting the voters to support Mr. Rama-Dass, a congress candidate for the Legislative Council. The notice also says that it was due to the efforts of the Mysore Congress that the labourers of K.G.F. got something and that they would be much more benefitted if they vote for Ramadoss and that the other candidate Mr. Anthony would not help them in anyway. Another notice saying that if they vote for Ramadass Section 17 M.M. Act would be removed , was also distributed in Champion Reefs.

Mr. V.P. Raju of Champion Reef who is of Justice party is said to be issuing a notice stating that the labourers should not be carried away by what congress people say but should look to their interest and vote for labourers only.

Messrs. C.P. Chinnaraju of Vellore and Krishnaswamy of Pallikondai, Justice party leaders are reported to have come here, perhaps to arrange for meetings; but on account of the Prohibitory Orders, it is ascertained that they will go back.

On page 2 of the 'Indian Express' dated the 13th instant, an article has been published referring to the prohibitory orders issued by the District Magistrate, Kolar wherein Mr. K. Pattabhiraman, General Secretary, Mysore Congress Parliamentary Sub Committee has criticised the issue of prohibitory orders and appealed to voters in K.G.F. to vote for congress candidate only.

Yours sincerely,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A., (Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

NR/-

VANDE MATHADARAM.

MYSORE CONGRESS.

-*-

Requisition to Brother labourers of K.G.F. who are give their votes in the K.G.F. Labour Constituency.

Brothers!

Our strength lies in unity. The Mysore Congress has got the strength of the State subjects behind it. Not only the congress was put into in-numerable difficulties in serving the country but also has sacrificed to its full extent. The success, the labourers have attained, is due to the cooperation of the congress and the strength behind. The congress is the only party which fights in the Representative Assembly and the Legislative Council for the progress of the country without fear or favour.

Therefore if our labour representative also were to be a Mysore Congressite, we will get the full support of the congress. An independent candidate is incapaciated to do any thing except to work for his selfish ends. To get the support of the biggest party in the Legislative Council, we want a capable, courageous and straightforward representative. Undoubtedly Mr. Ramadass, who is standing on congress ticket, is a man of that type.

Had Mr. Anthony stood on congress ticket, we would have tried to have him elected unopposed. But, as he has refused to come into the folds of congress, we should give our unstinted support to Mr. Ramadoss, who is contesting on behalf of congress.

If the congress and the labourers were to work in union, then both would be powerful. If the labourers are driven out from the congress, with the aid of anti-congressites, there will be not only split amongst the labourers, but also will affect detrimentally the interests of the labourers. Therefore we request

332

662

you to give your votes to the congress candidate Mr. Ramadass. As prohibitory orders are still in force against many of us, we are unable to come to your place and request you all personally. If you all support and vote for congress, then we will have an opportunity for removing these prohibitory orders and externment orders soon. Once again we request you in the interest of the country to give all your votes without fail to the congress.

Yours,

H. Siddaiya, B.A.,B.L.,
K.T. Bashyam, B.A.,B.L.,
K. Pattabhiraman, B.A.,LL.B.,
K. Chengalraya Reddy, B.A.,B.L.,
H.C. Dasappa, B.A.,LL.B.,
N.C. Thimma Reddy, B.A.,B.L.,
S. Nijalingappa, B.A.,LL.B.,
T. Subramanyam, B.A.,LL.B.,
M.K. Veeranna Gowda, B.A.,B.L.,
K. Sampangiramiah, B.A.,B.L.,
T. Siddalingaiya, B.A.,B.L..

Published by Sri Rama Dass.

Select Printing Works,
Bangalore City.

***

" COPY "

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

HR/-

333

N. PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 13th Sept. 1941.

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports, regarding the labour situation here, I beg to report that Mr. P.R.K. Sharma who came here yesterday morning went to Mr. Chengalrai Reddy in the afternoon and was discussing matters with him for nearly four hours. Later in the evening Messrs. Chengalraya Reddy, Thimma Reddy, Venkatesh and Puttashankarappa are said to have gone with about 20 or 30 Champion Reef people to Maddiah's building where Mr. Sharma was staying and demanded that Mr.Sharma should take votes from the persons gathered there as to which candidate should get the votes. It is gathered that at the time there were about eight people of Mysore mine, about 30 or 40 from Champion Reef mine and 3 or 4 from Oorgaum mine. Mr.Sharma told them that if ten persons from each mine should come he would take votes and come to a decision and he refused to take votes from the persons present as most of them were from Champion Reef mine. He also told them that he was primarily for labour and not for any political party. Then when they came out about 250 or 300 persons that had gathered outside demanded Mr. Sharma to give out his decision. Mr. Sharma told them that two candidates had stood - one @@@ Mr. Anthony from K.G.F. and another Mr. Ramadass on behalf of the Congress and that they may vote to any candidate they like as both the candidates are to contest in the election. He also told them that he would address a public meeting to-morrow if he was permitted by Government and that otherwise he will print handbills and distribute them explaining the situation. Some-one in the crowd cried that

that they should vote only for the congress candidate and no one else. At that juncture Venkatesh dropped handbills from upstairs appealing to voters to vote for Ramadas only signed by all the congress working committee members. An English Translation of this notice is enclosed.

Mr. Perumal who is elected to the Representative Assembly for K.G.F. Labour is said to have resigned from the congress and joined the Labour Unions at K.G.F. A notice explaining this is said to be under print in the press today. Another notice by Mr. P.R.K. Sharma to the labourers of K.G.F. explaining the position regarding the election to the Legislative Council and appealing to them to vote for their candidate is also said to be under print. Copies of these notices will be secured and submitted.

This morning Mr. N.C. Thimma Reddy and D. Venkatesh went to Champion Reefs with printed notices requesting the voters to support Mr. Rama-Dass, a congress candidate for the Legislative Council. The notice also says that it was due to the efforts of the Mysore Congress that the labourers of K.G.F. got something and that they would be much more benefitted if they vote for Ramadoss and that the other candidate Mr. Anthony would not help them in anyway. Another notice saying that if they vote for Ramadass Section 17 M.M. Act would be removed , was also distributed in Champion Reefs.

326 Mr. V.P. Raju of Champion Reef who is of Justice party is said to be issuing a notice stating that the labourers should not be carried away by what congress people say but should look to their interest and vote for labourers only.

Messrs. C.P. Chinnaraju of Vellore and Krishnaswamy of Pallikondai, Justice party leaders are reported to have come here, perhaps to arrange for a meetings; but on account of the Prohibitory Orders, it is ascertained that they will go back.

On page 2 of the 'Indian Express' dated the 13th instant, an article has been published referring to the prohibitory orders issued by the District Magistrate, Kolar wherein Mr. K. Pattabhiraman, General Secretary, Mysore Congress Parlimentary Sub Committee has criticised the issue of prohibitory orders and appealed to voters in K.G.F. to vote for congress candidate only.

Yours sincerely,

SD/- N. PUTTARANGASWAMY,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,(Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

NR/-

Copies in duplicate forwarded, with compliments, to the Superintendent of Police, Special Branch in Mysore, Bangalore.

13.9.

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

332

VANDE MATHADARAM.

MYSORE CONGRESS.

-*-

Requisition to Brother labourers of K.G.F. who are to give their votes in the K.G.F. Labour Constituency.

Brothers!

Our strength lies in unity. The Mysore Congress has got the strength of the State subjects behind it. Not only the congress was put into in-numerable difficulties in serving the country but also has sacrifided to its full extent. The success, the labourers have attained, is due to the cooperation of the congress and the strength behind. The congress is the only party which fights in the Representative Assembly and the Legislative Council for the progress of the country without fear or favour.

Therefore if our labour representative also were to be a Mysore Congressite, we will get the full support of the congress. An independent candidate is incapaciated to do any thing except to work for his selfish ends. To get the support of the biggest party in the Legislative Council, we want a capable, courageous and straightforward representative. Undoubtedly Mr. Ramadass, who is standing on congress ticket, is a man of that type.

Had Mr. Anthony stood on congress ticket, we would have tried to have him elected unopposed. But, as he has refused to come into the folds of congress, we should give our unstinted support to Mr. Ramadoss, who is contesting on behalf of congress.

If the congress and the labourers were to work in union, then both would be powerful. If the labourers are driven out from the congress, with the aid of anti-congressites, there will be not only split amongst the labourers, but also will affect detrimentaly the interests of the labourers. Therefore we request

you to gi[illegible] ngress candidate Mr. Ramadass. As prohibitory orders are still in force against many of us, we are unable to come to your place and request you all personally. If you all support and vote for congress, then we will have an opportunity for removing these prohibitory orders and externment orders soon. Once again we request you in the interest of the country to give all your votes without fail to the congress.

Yours,

H. Siddaiya, B.A.,B.L.,
K.T. Bashyam, B.A.,B.L.,
K. Pattabhiraman, B.A.,LL.B.,
K. Chengalraya Reddy, B.A.,B.L.,
H.C. Dasappa, B.A.,LL.B.,
N.C. Thimma Reddy, B.A.,B.L.,
S. Nijalingappa, B.A.,LL.B.,
T. Subramanyam, B.A.,LL.B.,
M.K. Veeranna Gowda, B.A.,B.L.,
K. Sampangiramiah, B.A.,B.L.,
T. Siddalingaiya, B.A.,B.L..

Published by Sri Rama Dass.

Select Printing Works,
Bangalore City.

***

COPY "

Dubhaiya

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

NR/-

339

D. O. No. 5/41-42/S.B. **SECRET**

(cuts 5.)

874/C 676

E. G. B. PEEL, Esq., C.I.E.,
Inspector-General of Police
in Mysore.

BANGALORE

Dated September 16, 41.

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR LAW
SEP 16 1941
No 2698

My dear Kesavaiengar,

I enclose for the information of Government a copy of a report No. CC.20/40-41 dated September 15, 1941, received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, regarding the activities of P.R.K. Sharma, Chengalraya Reddi and others in Kolar Gold Fields.

Yours
Peel

Submd
Law Minister
16/9/41

17/9

17/9

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Mysore,
Bangalore.

2

N. PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 15th Sept. 1941.

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports, I beg to state that there was vigorous canvassing on both the sides, Messrs. Chengalrai Reddy, Thimma Reddy, D. Venkatesh, Ebenezer, Ramu Mudaliar Rayappan, Dorairaj and Muniswamy on the congress side and Messrs. P.R.K. Sharma, L.T. Acharaya, Shanmugam, G. Narayanaswami and Indraraj on behalf of the Labour candidate. On the 13th evening both the parties came into contact at the Champion Reef 'B' Block and some congress minded people asked Mr. Sharma not to canvass for the labour candidate there when these people left the place to Marikuppam. On the 14th morning when one Muniswami was canvassing for congress in the Mysore mine limits the labourers there opposed him and he had to run away from there. Similarly when the Mysore mine labourers tried to canvass for Mr. Anthony in the Champion Reef mine limits they were opposed and sent away.

On the 14th instant Mr. Anthony, candidate for the labourers, went with Messrs. P.R.K. Sharma, A.T.L. Acharya, Krishnaswamy and Anthony, to Marikuppam and was canvassing in front of the Polling office where some people had gathered. As some disturbance was expected the Sub Inspector, Marikuppam went and sent them away from the Polling Office. Afterwards some people used some slang languages about Mr. Sharma for having gone there and abused him. Mr. P. Raju of Champion Reef distributed manuscript Tamil notices warning coolies not to be guided away by the congress (Copy of the English translation enclosed.)

A printed Tamil notice published by Sri Ramadass and printed at the Select Printing Works Bangalore City was found in Champion Reef 'L' Block. It stated that B.C. Puttashankarappa who carried some printed notices for distribution here was assaulted in the presence of Messrs. Sharma and others at the Maddiah's building etc. (Copy of the English translation enclosed). Enquiry disclosed that this was not true and that Puttashankarappa ~~with a bundle of notices was assaulted on the~~ went in a Jutka to the Electricty Labour Union Office at dead of night and knocked at the Union Office door and that the people who opened the door took a notice each that he was carrying when he raised a hue and cry and Mr. Ramachandra who was there came down and sent him to Mr. Chengalraya Reddy's house.

Mr. T.K. Perumal of Oorgaum a member of the Representative Assembly for the K.G.F. labourers has distributed Tamil printed notices announcing his resignation from the congress membership. An English Translation of the same is enclosed for kind perusal.

Mr. Chengalrai Reddy is reported to have left the place to Kysamballi by walk on the 15th evening.

Yours sincerely,

SD/- N. PUTTARANGASWAMY,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A., (Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

Copy in duplicate, forwarded with compliments, to the Superintendent of Police, Special Branch in Mysore, Bangalore.

Puttarangaswamy

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

15/9

A REPRESENT TO THE KOLAR GOLD FIELDS LABOURERS.

***

What the undersigned informs the Kolar Gold Field labourers is this :-

I, who has been elected without any contest on 30th August 1941, with the consent of the Kolar Gold Fields labourers Sangham representatives for a seat in the Mysore Samasthan PEOPLES REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY, had joined the congress from the first week of September 1941. But this has caused much dis-satisfaction amidst all the labourers of the Kolar Gold Fields. Hence, as per my own discretion from this day the 13th September 1941, I am separated from the congress hold. Hereafter on behalf of the Kolar Gold Fields Sangham I will be a representative of the labouring class and also a member for the people in the Assembly.

Yours,
Perumal alias
T.K. Perumal,
T.No.90.
Pipe Maistry, Oorgaum Mines

Immanuel Press.

***

" COPY "

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

NR/-

LIVE THE LABOURERS! BEWARE!

LONG FLOURISH LABOUR SANGHAM!

LABOURERS! Arise with feelings. Don't fall into the pit of the congress.

Every labourer is bound to show his sense of gratitude to the most beneign Mysore Government and the mining authorities for having permitted the Unions to be formed for which we were struggling hard for the past one year. It will be considered most sensible if the labourers form an union without giving scope for any caste differences as the labourers are entitled for all the rights under one red flag. The congressite against the provisions of law, have come forward to provoke the labouring class - just to get a vote for their candidate to fulfils their own demands. Therefore we warn the labourers in time not to entangle themselves in these things and thereby be deprieved of the benefits.

As this notice was not printed in the press, we had to publish like this.

***

" COPY "

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

NR/-

686

VANDE MATHARAM.

CAN THERE BE ANY SUCH THING LIKE THIS ?

Bangalore Labour Sangham, Binnay Mill Labour Sangha - Joint leader Sri Putta Sankarappa announces :-

In view of the election that is to be held on Sunday the 14th September 1941 for a seat in the Legislative Council representing the labourers of Bangalore and K.G.F. Ramadass a candidate on behalf of the Mysore Congress is contesting - which is a well-known affair. To distribute leaflets for a vote to Sri Ramadass at K.G.F., I started to this place on Friday the 12th September 1941 by the night train. When I got down at Oorgaum station, it was night about 12 O'clock. Some met me at the Platform and promised to take me to the place where Messrs. Thimma Reddy and Chengalraya Reddy were put up. I followed them and reached a storeyed building. On enquiries I ascertained it belonged to one contractor Maddayya. There Messrs. Ramachandra, T.L.A. Acharaya, and P.R.K. Sharma were present. When I reached this place, they not only tried their best to take all the leaflets from me, but also used force to get them from me and tore them and threw them also. I expressed to them their bad behaviour. Then some of them beat me. But it surprised me to see that Messrs. Acharaya, Ramachandra and Sharma who were witnessing this incident were keeping quiet. I told them many times that I would publish their behaviour to the public. Then thes ill-intentioned fellows expressed that I should not do so. Then I went to my friends Thimma Reddy and Venkatesan who had taken more leaflets. I was surprised to see their behavio I believe that my labour brothers will show their disgust over such conduct. I have still belief in people who have used force on me.

I request that the labourers will cast their votes to Sri Ramadass who has stood on the congress ticket and make him a success in the election.

B.C. Puttasankarappa.

Bangalore
14-9-1941.

Published by Ramadass.
Select Printing Works, Bangalore City.

343

" COPY "

NR/-

893/688

GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE

Telegraphic Address

OFFICE OF

The District Magistrate,

Kolar District,

Kolar.

No. C.C.27/40-41.

Encls. One.

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR LAW
SEP 17 1941
No. 2755

Date 17th September 1941.

To

Rajasevaprasakta B.T. Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,

Chief Secretary to the Government of Mysore,

Bangalore.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward, herewith, for information, copy of D.O. letter No:C.C.20/40-41 dated 15th September 1941 received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, regarding the Labour situation on the Fields.

I have the honour to be,
S i r,
Your most obedient servant,

S. Narayanaiyer

DISTRICT MAGISTRATE,
Kolar District.

Sabd
Law Minister
18/9
18/9
18/9

V. PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
ted 15th Sept. 1941.

CC.20/40-41.

Dear

In continuation of my previous reports, I beg to state that there was vigorous canvassing on both the sides, Messrs. Chengalrai Reddy, Thimma Reddy, D. Venkatesh, Ebenezer, Ramu Mudaliar Rayappan, Dorairaj and Muniswamy on the congress side and Messrs. P.R.K. Sharma, L.T. Acharaya, Shanmugam, G. Narayanaswami and Indraraj on behalf of the Labour candidate. On the 13th evening both the parties came into contact at the Champion Reef 'B' Block and some congress minded people asked Mr. Sharma not to canvass for the labour candidate there when these people left the place to Marikuppam. On the 14th morning when one Muniswar was canvassing for congress in the Mysore mine limits the labourers there opposed him and he had to run away from there. Similarly when the Mysore mine labourers tried to canvass for Mr. Anthony in the Champion Reef mine limits they were opposed and sent away.

On the 14th instant Mr. Anthony, candidate for the labourers, went with Messrs. P.R.K. Sharma, A.T.L. Acharya, Krishnaswamy and Anthony, to Marikuppam and was canvassing in front of the ~~Police~~ Polling office where some people had gathered. As some disturbance was expected the Sub Inspector, Marikuppam went and sent them away from the Polling Office. Afterwards some people used some slang languages about Mr. Sharma for having gone there and abused him. Mr. P. Raju of Champion Reef distributed manuscript Tamil notices warning the coolies not to be guided away by the congress. (Copy of the English translation enclos

A printed Tamil notice published by Sri Ramadass and printed at the Select Printing Works Bangalore City was found in Champion Reef 'L' Block. It stated that B.C. Puttashankarappa who carried some printed notices for distribution here was assaulted in the presence of Messrs. Sharma and others at the Maddiah's building etc. (Copy of the English translation enclosed). Enquiry disclosed that this was not true and that Puttashankarappa with a bundle of notices was assaulted on the went in a Jutka to the Electricty Labour Union Office at dead of night and knocked at the Union Office door and that the people who opened the door took a notice each that he was carrying when he raised a hue and cry and Mr. Ramachandra who was there came down and sent him to Mr. Chengalraya Reddy's house.

Mr. T.K. Perumal of Oorgaum a member of the Representative Assembly for the K.G.F. labourers has distributed Tamil printed notices announcing his resignation from the congress membership. An English Translation of the same is enclosed for kind perusal.

Mr. Chengalrai Reddy is reported to have left the place to Kysamballi by walk on the 15th evening.

Yours sincerely,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,(Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

348

A REPRESENT TO THE KOLAR GOLD FIELDS LABOURERS.

***

What the undersigned informs the Kolar Gold Field labourers is this :-

I, who has been elected without any contest on 30th August 1941, with the consent of the Kolar Gold Fields labourers Sangham representatives for a seat in the Mysore Samasthan PEOPLES REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY, had joined the congress from the first week of September 1941. But this has caused much dis-satisfaction amidst all the labourers of the Kolar Gold Fields. Hence, as per my own discretion from this day the 13th September 1941, I am separated from the congress hold. Hereafter on behal of the Kolar Gold Fields Sangham I will be a representati of the labouring class and also a member for the people in the Assembly.

Yours,

Perumal alias

T.K. Perumal,

T.No.90.

Pipe Maistry, Corgaum Li

Immanuel Press.

***

" COPY "

Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

NR/-

349

LONG LIVE THE LABOURERS! BEWARE!

LONG FLOURISH LABOUR SANGHAM!

LABOURERS! Arise with feelings. Don't fall into the pit of the congress.

Every labourer is bound to show his sense of gratitude to the most beneign Mysore Government and the mining authorities for having permitted the Unions to be formed for which we were struggling hard for the past one year. It will be considered most sensible if the labourers form an union without giving scope for any caste differences as the labourers are entitled for all the rights under one red flag. The congressites against the provisions of law, have come forward to provoke the labouring class - just to get a vote for their candidate to fulfill their own demands. Therefore we warn the labourers in time not to entangle themselves in those things and thereby be deprieved of the benefits.

As this notice was not printed in the press, we had to publish like this.

***

" COPY "

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

NR/-

350

CAN THERE BE ANY SUCH THING LIKE THIS ?

Bangalore Labour Sangham, Binnay Mill Labour Sangha - Joint leader Sri Putta Sankarappa announces :-

In view of the election that is to be held on Sunday the 14th September 1941 for a seat in the Legislative Council representing the labourers of Bangalore and K.G.F. Ramadass a candidate on behalf of the Mysore Congress is contesting - which is a well-known affair. To distribute leaflets for a vote to Sri Ramadass at K.G.F., I started to this place on Friday the 12th September 1941 by the night train. When I got down at Oorgaum station, it was night about 12 O'clock. Some met me at the Platform and promised to take me to the place where Messrs. Thimma Reddy and Chengalraya Reddy were put up. I followed them and reached a storeyed building. On enquiries I ascertained it belonged to one contractor Maddayya. There Messrs. Ramachandra, T.L.A. Acharaya, and P.A.K. Sharma were present. When I reached this place, they not only tried their best to take all the leaflets from me, but also used force to get them from me and tore them and threw them also. I expressed to them their bad behaviour. Then some of them beat me. But it surprised me to see that Messrs. Acharaya, Ramachandra and Sharma who were witnessing this incident were keeping quiet. I told them many times that I would publish their behavio r to the public. Then these ill-intentioned fellows expressed that I should not do so. Then I went to my (Sri) friends Thimma Reddy and Venkatesan who had taken more leaflets. I was surprised to see their behaviou I believe that my labour brothers will show their disgust over such conduct. I have still belief in people who have used force on me.

I request that the labourers will cast their votes to Sri Ramadass who has stood on the congress ticket and make him a success in the election.

B.C. Puttasankarappa.

Bangalore
14-9-1941.

Published by Ramadass.
Select Printing Works, Bangalore City.

" COPY "

MR/-

905 CB. 100

Mr. M. Seshadri, M.A.,
Deputy Commissioner.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE,
BANGALORE.

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR LAW
SEP 19 1941
No 286

Dated 18th September 1941.

D. O. C.C. 2/41-42
Enc: one

Subd
MK 18/9
(Law minister) I presume that the Judge is keeping the Govt. kept informed of the proceedings
19/9
MK 19/9

Dear Mr. Kesaviengar,

I am sending herewith for favour of perusal, a copy of the report No. CC. 25/41-42 dated yesterday, received from the City Superintendent of Police Bangalore, about the proposed formation of a Congres Committee for the benefit of the Kolar Fields.

Yours sincerely,

M Seshadri

702

ORE POLICE DEPARTMENT.

From

M. Wynne, Esquire.,
Superintendent of Police,
Bangalore City.

To

SECRET.

The Deputy Commissioner,

Bangalore District, Bangalore.

No. C 25/[illegible] Dated September 17, 1941.

Sir,

I have the honour to state that Mr.N.C.Thimma Reddy is reported to have met Mr.K.T.Bashyam and discussed with him about the formation of a Congress Committee for the benefit of Kolar Gold Fields. After much discussion - they have come to the conclusion that such a Committee should be formed with Head Quarters at Kesambally or at Bowringpet in case its existence is not permitted in the Mine area itself. The members of the Executive Committee will be drawn from all the Four Mines and the Congress Committee thus formed will exercise control over the - various associations of the Mines.

Further informations if any will duly be intimated.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

Superintendent of Police,
Bangalore City.

994704
C.B.

GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE

Telegraphic Address

OFFICE OF
The District Magistrate,
Kolar District,
(Camp) Oorgaum.

No. C.C.27/41-42.
Encls. Three

C.B. 2619

Date 24th September 1941.

To

Rajasevaprasakta B.T. Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to the Government of Mysore,
Bangalore.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward, herewith, for information, copy of D.O. letter No:C.C.20/40-41 dated 23rd September 1941 received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, regarding the Labour situation on the Fields.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

Sd/- Narayanagowda

DISTRICT MAGISTRATE,
Kolar District.

D. PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
ated 23rd Sept. 1941.

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports I beg to state that it is reported that about 100 labourers gathered in the verandah of Gollapuramma temple on the evening of 21-9-41 of whom Perumal, V.P. Raju, Periaswamy, Arunachallam, Raghavela and Murugesh were prominent. Mr. Acharaya who was also present read the Government Notification regarding the formation of the labour union in every mine and translated the rules framed thereby. At about 6 p.m. the congress-minded people, Dorai, Perumal, Kasilamani, Vadivelu, Jagannath, Periaswami, Dakshnamurthy and Raman of Champion Reef mine came there. Perumal questioned Mr. Acharya whether that was a congregation of labourers or of capitalists, for which Mr. Acharya seems to have replied that he was requested by the people of Corgaum to explain the labour legislation. Murugesh of Corgaum mines seems to have said that they were holding only informal discussions within the compound of the temple and that they may not be disturbed as it was not a public meeting. Thereby Perumal and Dorai are reported to have assaulted Murugesh and behaved rudely using abusive language. In the meanwhile the others brought the situation under control and the gath ring dispersed and V.P. Raju and others are stated to have reported the matter to the Corgaum Police. Instructions have been issued to warn these coolies of the Champion Reef mine that they would be proceeded against under Security Sections, if they behave likewise.

At about 8 p.m. the same day Nayanpan, Rangaswamy, Vijayaraghavan, A.V. Appakutti and Perumal went to the Labour Union Office at Corgaum

when V.P. Raju, Perumal and 4 others also went there. The latter are said to have gone there to get the key of the Union Office from Rayappan who replied that it would be given to the President only. Then they all went away.

It is further reported that there was a secret meeting in the Upstairs of the Union Office of Mandydroog mine and that about 200 labourers had gathered there. Gopala Nair and Kuttykrishna Nair were present. At about 6 p.m. Rayappan, Rangaswami and four others went there but they were not allowed on the ground that the meeting was meant exclusively for the members of Mandydroog mine only. Then they all returned.

There is information that one Kapali of E.T. Block and another Appakutty of Oorgaum went with six others to Kuppam to see N.C. Phillips on 20-9-1941 and returned on the evening of 21-9-1941. Another party is said to have gone to see Mr. Chengalrai Reddy. The movements of these persons are being watched.

On 22-9-41 Messrs. Venkachallam and Kuttikrishna Nair went to Maddiah's building at about 4-30 p.m. and brought Mr. Acharya and about 40 coolies in front of the Mandydroog mine Union Office. As the key of the Union Office was not available, they came to the Drama Hall at the Kennedy Shaft lines where about 100 coolies had gathered. Mr. Acharya read the Government Notification and translated the rules. He also told the gathering that if they have any grievances they should approach Mr. A.V. Ramanathan. Dorairaj and Joseph congress-minded labourers also came there. Dorairaj passed a chit to Mr. Acharya asking him if he had permission to hold a meeting. Mr. Acharya did not reply and the labourers who had

710

gathered there replied that they had given him permission to speak. Joseph is reported to have given a letter also to him warning him not to hold such meeting (copy enclosed). Then these two persons went away and Mr. Acharya advised the gathering that they should vote to the labour members in the general election to be held in December. Venkatachalam who next spoke advised the labourers likewise and also to pay regular subscriptions to the Union.

At about 8.40 p.m. Mr. Shanmugam of Henry Wharf lines with about 10 coolies met Dorairaj and Joseph at Abboy buildings and asked them as to why they had not opened the Union Office inspite of previous intimation that Mr. Acharya would meet them there. Joseph replied that the office peon had taken away the key to Bowringpet. Shanmugam then told them that the union office was meant for the labourers and that if such tricks are played hereafter they would break open the lock and enter the union office. Dorairaj and Joseph went away without any reply.

In Corgaum mines V.P. Raju, T.K. Perumal and about 10 labourers came to the Union Office at Robertsonpet and found the building locked. They then went to the Corgaum Railway station expecting Mr. Ramachandraji who did not come by train. Then they all went home.

It is reported that the congress members particularly Joseph, Dorairaj and Rayappan are evading to open the lock of the Union Office and discontentment among other labourers prevails.

D.S. Venkatesh of Bangalore is staying in the house of Venkatarama Reddy. No labour is visiting him nor is he coming out and he is said to be awaiting the arrival of Mr. Chengalrai Reddy. Rayappa is said to be not traceable here since yesterday.

157

Indraraj of Mysore mine is reported to have sent a man to K.C. Phillips to ascertain as to why Appakutty and others had been to him on the 20th inst. Mahimanathan, Masilamani, Dakshinamoorthy, Perumal, Dorai and others are said to have gone to Kyasamballi to meet Mr. Chengalrai Reddy and consult about the labour activities in K.G.F. He seems to have promised them his help.

As a result of Kapali of E.T. Block, Appakutty of Corgaum and others having gone to Kuppam lengthy notices have been got printed at Vellore under the signature of K.C. Phillips saying that the Union Office at Kuppam is not closed and that all the labourers should respect notices signed by K.C. Phillips only and that they must not follow Mr. P.R.K. Sharma and his group and that they must follow congress. An English Translation of the notice is enclosed.

Yours sincerely,

B. NARAYANASWAMY, ESQ., B.A., (Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

"COPY"

DISTRICT MAGISTRATE,
Kolar District.

KOLAR GOLD FIELDS LABOUR SANGHAM.

Welcome.

Most Beloved Companions!

The way in which you all have welcomed our great leader Sri P.R.K. Sharma on 31-8-41 without showing any difference and the way in which you have kept up the prestige of our Sangham - is a matter of unforgetfulness. It is regrettable to note certain things that had happened later.. Next day Sri A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar, our Treasurer who had sacrificed his life for our sake was mined out under section 17 of the Mysore Mines Act and was not even permitted to halt there for 15 minutes and was sent under the escort of the police. We know that this is the most unquenchable grievance.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY ELECTION.

In connection with the election for the legislative house, it is regretable to note certain affairs that had happened. It is not our attitude to contest with the congress side nor with any Government side. It is our attitude to cooperate with the congress side which is the major group in the Assembly and at the same time to look forward to the progress of the labouring class. We came to a decision at the meeting consisting of Sanghams that the congress at this juncture can conduct themselves in any way without standing in the way of the labourers and thereby permitting our representatives to act in their own way and Sri Anthony also gave an assurance, to this effect to the congress. Our general secretary also consented to the above assurance when he was casually talking with leader of the Mysore Assembly Congress party. Sri K.C. Reddy, Sri Anthony also consented. But at the last moment at the instigation of Sri Acharya and Sri Hanji, he refused to consent and this refusal was most regretable. It has to be much more regretted to note the steps taken by Dr. P.R.K. Sharma on this line. He has not only misled the labourers at

359

the right minent but also definitely stated that the labourers could give their votes to persons whom they liked. It is a great mistake that Sri Sharma has not consulted with the general Secretary and he had he had talked on many occasions and also printed many leaflets without the sanction of the Sangham and had given hearty co-operation to Sri Anthony who had acted quite contrary to the principles of Sangham. It is still more regrettable that Sri Sharma had misbehaved hastily without keeping up the prestige of his position. It is a disgrace if the legislation by which persons who were born in K.G.F. were sent out under the 17th Section was welcomed inspite of the hatred over it by the people there is the way through which the labourers should pass on if the way is to be misled? What are the principles that the labourers could hold on if the Sangham holds on one principle and their president the other? It is because the Sangham did not give a definite opinion as to whom they should vote, it so happened that each labourer began to cast his vote as he liked. Sangham wished that one of the two should succeed. And all our congratulations to the successful candidate Sri Ramadass.

It is most regrettable to note that the labourers who had canvassed their respective candidates from each side are not still united inspite of the elections having been over. It is a matter of routine that each side is interested of his own candidate. But it is a matter of necessity and importance that they should join hand in hand of the the election. Our troubles and misunderstandings of this will be the result of our no-unity. There is no doubt that the capitalists will come forward to spoil the Sangham. Some news are at hand that T.L. Acharya and some mere labourers who are clinging to him are trying to establish a name-sake Sangham. Labourers! There is no doubt that all

our efforts and troubles will end in vain if you keep quiet at this moment. Our mind gets confused when we begin to think of it again and again. I request that all will be united and thereby establish Sangham without showing any party differences. Do not believe any Sangham or any block committee that has its new origin.

The members who were then the committee members, will be the committee members now also and they will carry on with the respective Sangham work. I request you to pay your subscription to them without fail. If the authorities give me permission, I will go to K.G.F. and remain with you till theelection is over. For the present there need be no change in the Office-bearers. If there is to be any change we will let you know.

As the holding of meetings is prohibited in K.G.F. it has not been convenient to explain to you all briefly. The right of holding meetings can be given only to those who follow the path of the Government and the capitalists. Do not have belief in any of their speeches. Expect the Sangham notices. Do not believe any notice that has no signature of Mr. Secretary K.C. Phillips. Intimate all matters to the Head Office. Even now the Head Office is at Kuppam. It is not closed till to-day. Till the Prohibitory Order on your Secretary is taken off or he himself puts in his resignation the head-office will be at Kuppam.

All the monetary accounts (of incomes & expenditures) will be published soon. I am expecting the account from Mr. G. Narayanaswamy who was entrusted to collect money from you and send it to the Head Office. After the receipt of the same, I will send you the accounts without any delay.

361 It is most painful that Sri P.N.K. Sharma is carrying on his work independently without consulting with the Secretary and the representatives. It is believed that atleast now he will

790

act as per the wishes of the majority.

Yours,

K.C. Phillips,

General Secretary,

D.S. VASAN PRESS, VELLORE.

Kuppam,
21- -41.

**

" COPY "

Subbarayan

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

MR/-

23/9

" C O P Y "

S. Narayanan 24/9

DISTRICT MAGISTRATE,
Kolar District.

36

Handydroog Labour Assn., 722
Dated 22-9-1941.

From

The Handydroog Labour Association,
Kolar Gold Fields.

To

T.L.A. Acharya, Esq

Dear Sir,

I am authorised by the committee of the Handydroog Association to intimate you regarding the activities in Handydroog mine. The committee apprehends that any breach of the Government Order promulgated recently, will lead the Government interference and so that the committee decides that no meeting of any kind shall be held in contravention to the above order. For any meeting held by you in violation of the above orders and for any breach of peace caused due to any such activities the committee will not be responsible.

The committee hopes that you would obey the Government Order in respect of the decision of the committee.

Yours faithfully,
SD/- H.K. KRISHNA NAIR,
SECRETARY.

Copy to : G.S.P., K.G.F.
F.C.M., do
Asst. Labour Commissioner, for favour of information.

***

" COPY "

Dupuy

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

RR/-

363

22/9

" C O P Y "

S Nanjappa 24/9

DISTRICT MAGISTRATE,
Kolar District.

SECRET

D. O. No. 5/41-42/S.B.

E. G. B. PEEL, Esq., C.I.E.,
Inspector-General of Police
in Mysore.

BANGALORE

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR LAW
SEP 26 1941
No. 990

Dated Septr. 24, 1941

I enclose for the information of Government a copy of a report No. C.C. 20/40-41 dated September, 23, 1941, received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, regarding the activities of T.L.A. Acharya and others in Kolar Gold Fields.

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Mysore,
Bangalore.

T.N. PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 23rd Sept. 1941.

726

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports I beg to state that it is reported that about 100 labourers gathered in the verandah of Gollapuramma temple on the evening of 21-9-41 of whom Perumal, V.P. Raju, Periaswamy, Arunachallam, Raghavelu and Murugesh were prominent. Mr. Acharaya who was also present read the Government Notification regarding the formation of the labour union in every mine and translated the rules framed thereby. At about 6 p.m. the congress-minded people, Dorai, Perumal, Masilamani, Vadivelu, Jaganath, Periaswami, Dakshnamurthy and Raman of Champion Reef mine came there. Perumal questioned Mr. Acharya whether that was a congregation of labourers or of capitalists, for which Mr. Acharya seems to have replied that he was requested by the people of Oorgaum to explain the labour legislation. Murugesh of Oorgaum mines seems to have said that they were holding only informal discussions within the compound of the temple and that they may not be disturbed as it was not a public meeting. Thereby Perumal and Dorai are reported to have assaulted Murugesh and behaved rudely using abussive language. In the meanwhile the others brought the situation under control and the gathering dispersed and V.P. Raju and others are stated to have reported the matter to the Oorgaum Police. Instructions have been issued to warn these coolies of the Champion Reef mine that they would be proceeded against under Security Sections, if they behave likewise.

365

At about 8 p.m. the same day Rayappan, Rangaswamy, Vijayaraghavan, A.V. Appakutti and Perumal went to the Labour Union Office at Oorgaum

when V.P. Raju, Perumal and 4 others also went there. The latter are said to have gone there to get the key of the Union Office from Rayappan who replied that it would be given to the President only. Then they all went away.

It is further reported that there was a secret meeting in the Upstairs of the Union Office of Nandydroog mine and that about 200 labourers had gathered there. Gopala Nair and Kuttykrishna Nair were present. At about 5@ p.m. Rayappan, Rangaswami and four others went there but they were not allowed on the ground that the meeting was meant exclusively for the members of Nandydroog mine only. Then they all returned.

There is information that one Kapali of E.T. Block and another Appakutty of Oorgaum went with six others to Kuppam to see K.C. Phillips on 20-9-1941 and returned on the evening of 21-9-1941. Another party is said to have gone to see Mr. Chengalrai Reddy. The movements of these persons are being watched.

On 22-9-41 Messrs. Venkatachallam and Kuttikrishna Nair went to Maddiah's building at about 4-30 p.m. and brought Mr. Acharya and about 40 coolies in front of the Nandydroog mine Union Office. As the key of the Union Office was not available, they came to the Drama Hall at the Kennedy Shaft lines where about 100 coolies had gathered. Mr. Acharya read the Government Notification and translated the rules. He also told the gathering that if they have any grievances they should approach Mr. A.V. Ramanathan Dorairaj and Joseph congress-minded labourers also came there. Dorairaj passed a chit to Mr. Acharya asking him if he had permission to hold a meeting. Mr. Acharya did not reply and the labourers who had

gathered there replied that they had given him permission to speak. Joseph is reported to have given a letter also to him warning him not to hold such meeting (copy enclosed). Then these two persons went away and Mr. Acharya advised the gathering that they should vote to the labour members in the general election to be held in December. Venkatachalam who next spoke advised the labourers likewise and also to pay regular subscriptions to the Union.

At about 8.40 p.m. Mr. Shanmugam of Henry Shaft lines with about 10 coolies met Dorairaj and Joseph at Abboy buildings and asked them as to why they had not opened the Union Office inspite of previous intimation that Mr. Acharya would meet them there. Joseph replied that the office peon had taken away the key to Bowringpet. Shanmugam then told them that the union office was meant for the labourers and that if such tricks are played hereafter they would break open the lock and enter the union office. Dorairaj and Joseph went away without any reply.

In Oorgaum mines V.P. Raju, T.K. Perumal and about 10 labourers came to the Union Office at Robertsonpet and found the building locked. They then went to the Oorgaum Railway station expecting Mr. Ramachandraji who did not come by train. Then they all went home.

It is reported that the congress members particularly Joseph, Dorairaj and Rayappan are evading to open the lock of the Union Office and discontentment among other labourers prevails.

D.S. Venkatesh of Bangalore is staying in the house of Venkatarama Reddy. No labour is visiting him nor is he coming out and he is said to be awaiting the arrival of Mr. Chengalrai Reddy. Rayappa is said to be not traceable here since yesterday.

Indraraj of Mysore mine is reported to have sent a man to K.C. Phillips to ascertain as to why Appakutty and others had been to him on the 20th inst. Mahimanathan, Masilamani, Dakshmana, Perumal, Dorai and others are said to have gone to Kyasamballi to meet Mr. Chengalrai Reddy and consult about the labour activities in K.G.F. He seems to have promised them his help.

As a result of Kapali of E.T. Block, Appakutty of Oorgaum and others having gone to Kuppam lengthy notices have been got printed at Vellore under the signature of K.C. Phillips saying that the Union Office at Kuppam is not closed and that all the labourers should respect notices signed by K.C. Phillips only and that they must not follow Mr. P.R.K. Sharma and his group and that they must follow congress. An English Translation of the notice is enclosed.

Yours sincerely,

SD/- N. PUTTARANGASWAMY,

S. NARAYANASWAMY, ESQ., M.A., (Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

Copies in duplicate, forwarded with compliments to the Superintendent of Police, Special Branch in Mysore, Bangalore.

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

368

KOLAR GOLD FIELDS LABOUR SANGHAM

Welcome.

Most Beloved Companions!

The way in which you all have welcomed our great leader Sri P.R.K. Sharma on 31-8-41 without showing any difference and the way in which you have kept up the prestige of our Sangham - is a matter of unforgetfulness. It is regrettable to note certain things that had happened later. Next day Sri A.T. Lakshmana Mudaliar, our Treasurer who had sacrificed his life for our sake was mined out under section 17 of the Mysore Mines Act and was not even permitted to halt there for 15 minutes and was sent under the escort of the police. We know that this is the most unquenchable grievance.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY ELECTION.

In connection with the election for the legislative house, it is regretable to note certain affairs that had happened. It is not our attitude to contest with the congress side nor with any Government side. It is our attitude to cooperate with the congress side which is the major group in the Assembly and at the same time to look forward to the progress of the labouring class. We came to a decision at the meeting consisting of Sanghams that the congress at this juncture can conduct themselves in any way without standing in the way of the labourers and thereby permitting our representatives to act in their own way and Sri Anthony also gave an assurance, to this effect to the congress. Our general secretary also consented to the above assurance when he was casually talking with leader of the Mysore Assembly Congress party. Sri K.C. Reddy, Sri Anthony also consented. But at the last moment at the instigation of Sri Acharya and Sri Ramji, he refused to consent and this refusal was most regretable. It has to be much more regretted to note the steps taken by Sr. P.R.K. Sharma on this line. He has not only misled the labourers at

361

the right miment but also definitely stated that the labourers could give their votes to persons whom they liked. It is a great mistake that Sri Sharma has not consulted with the general Secretary and he had ~~he had~~ talked on many occasions and also printed many leaflets without the sanction of the Sangham and had given hearty co-operation to Sri Anthony who had acted quite contrary to the principles of Sangham. It is still more regrettable that Sri Sharma had misbehaved hastily without keeping up the prestige of his position. It is a disgrace if the legislation by which persons who were born in K.G.F. were sent out under the 17th Section was welcomed inspite of the hatred over it by the people Where is the way through which the labourers should pass on if their way is to be misled? What are the principles that the labourers could hold on if the Sangham holds on one principle and their president the other? It is because the Sangham did not give a definite opinion as to whom they should vote, it so happened that each labourer began to cast his vote as he liked. Sangham wished that one of the two should succeed. And all our congratulations to the successful candidate Sri Ramadass.

It is most regrettable to note that the labourers who had canvassed their respective candidates from each side are not still united inspite of the elections having been over. It is a matter of routine that each side is interested of his own candidate. But it is a matter of necessity and importance that they should join hand in hand of the the election. Our troubles and misunderstandings will be the result of our no-unity. There is no doubt that the capitalists will come forward to spoil the Sangham. Some news are at hand that T.L. Acharya and some more labourers who are clinging to him are trying to establish a name-sake Sangham. Labourers! There is no doubt that all

our efforts and troubles will end in vain if you keep quiet at this moment. Our mind gets confused when we begin to think of it again and again. I request that all will be united and thereby establish Sangham without showing any party differences. Do not believe any Sangham or any block committee that has its new origin.

The members who were then the committee members, will be the committee members now also and they will carry on with the respective Sangham work. I request you to pay your subscription to them without fail. If the authorities give me permission, I will go to K.G.F. and remain with you till theelection is over. For the present there need be no change in the Office-bearers. If there is to be any change we will let you know.

As the holding of meetings is prohibited in K.G.F. it has not been convenient to explain to you all briefly. The right of holding meetings can be given only to those who follow the path of the Government and the capitalists. Do not have belief in any of their speeches. Expect the Sangham notices. Do not believe any notice that has no signature of Mr. Secretary K.C. Phillips. Intimate all matters to the Head Office. Even now the Head Office is at Kuppam. It is not closed till to-day. Till the Prohibitory Order on your Secretary is taken off or he himself puts in his resignation the head-office will be at Kuppam.

All the monetary accounts (& incomes & expenditures) will be published soon. I am expecting the account from Mr. G. Narayanaswamy who was entrusted to collect money from you and send it to the Head Office. After the receipt of the same, I will send you the accounts without any delay. It is most painful that Sri P.R.K. Sharma is carrying on his work independently without consulting with the Secretary and the representatives. It is believed that atleast now he will

act as per the wishes of the majority.

Yours,

K.C. Phillips,

General Secretary,

Kuppam,
21-9-41.

D.S. VASAN PRESS, VELLORE.

***

COPY

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

NR/-

32

742

Nandydroog Labour Assn.,
Dated 22-9-1941.

From

The Nandydroog Labour Assocation,
Kolar Gold Fields.

To

T.L.A. Acharya, Esq.,

Dear Sir,

I am authorised by the committee of the Nandydroog Association to intimate you regarding the activities in Nandydroog mine. The committee apprehends that any breach of the Government Order promulgated recently, will lead the Government interference and so that the committee decides that no meeting of any kind shall be held in contravention to the above order. For any meeting held by you in violation of the above orders and for any breach of peace caused due to any such activities the committee will not be responsible.

The committee hopes that you would obey the Government Order in respect of the decision of the committee.

Yours faithfully,
SD/- M.K. KRISHNA NAIR,
SECRETARY.

Copy to : S.S.P., K.G.F.
F.C.M., do
Asst. Labour Commissioner, for favour of information.

***

" COPY "

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

NR/-

323

1015 744
B

MrM. Seshadri, M.A.,
Deputy Commissioner.

DEWAN'S CLERK
NO 2697

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE,
BANGALORE.

Dated 26th Septr. 1941.

D. O. C.C. 2/41-42
Enc: one

OFFICE OF THE
MINISTER FOR LAW
SEP 28 1941
No. 3127

Subd

Law Minister
Dewan
28/9/41
The matter was called off on 28/9
28/9/41
28/9

Dear Mr. Kesaviengar,

I am sending herewith for favour of perusal, a copy of the report No. C.C. 186/41-42 dated yesterday received from the City Superintendent of Police.

Yours sincerely,

M Seshadri

WD 02723—GPB—20,000—1-7-41.

Form No. 24]

MYSORE POLICE DEPARTMENT.

In reply, please quote number, date and short title.*

Received..... .....*Registered*..... .....

From (Name) M. Wynne, Esquire.,

(Designation) Superintendent of Police,

Post Box..... ....., (STATION) .....Bangalore City..... .....

Telegraphic Address ....

To

The Deputy Commissioner,

Bangalore District, Bangalore.

C.C.No. 186/41-42 *dated* Septr. 25, *194*1

SIR,

ENCLOSURES .....

.....

.....

SPARE COPIES.....

Industrial & Testing Laboratory.

In continuation of this office letter of yes regarding the strike at the above Laboratory, the honour to state that it is ascertained that th Chief Chemist had sent for Mr.H.V.Subrahmanyam and advised him to instruct the strikers to resume work as he had received orders of increment of wages to most of the workers. Mr.Subrahmanyam wanted to k as to whether similar increments to temporary work had been given. On coming to know that this quest would be taken up later on, he wanted that all incr ments to the whole staff must be announced simultaneous and that War allowances should also be given &c.

A meeting of the strikers was convened at abou 5 P.M. in the Maidan in front of the Malleswaram Hi School. Mr.H.V.Subrahmanyam addressed the gatherin and stated that he had very good experience in orga sing strikes and he can boast himself that all the strikes conducted by him has ended successfully wit benifit to the parties affected. He wished that strike also comes to an end with credit

325

GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE

1024 748
CB

Telegraphi Address

OFFICE OF

The District Magistrate,
Kolar District,
(Camp) Oorgaum.

No. C.C.27/41-42.
Encls. One.

CB
28/9

Date 26th September 1941.

To

Rajasevaprasakta B.T. Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to the Government of Mysore,
Bangalore.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward, herewith, for information, copy of D.O. letter No:C.C.20/41-42 dated 25th September 1941 received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, regarding the Labour situation on the Fields.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

DISTRICT MAGISTRATE,
Kolar District.

N. KUTTANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 25th Sept. 1941.

CC.20/40-41.

In continuation of my previous reports, regarding the labour situation at K.G.F., I beg to state that on the night of the 23rd instant Indraraj Narayanaswami and another person of Mysore mine went to Kuppam by Mail train and discussed with Phillips about the notice issued under his signature. They told him that by introducing political parties into labour associations the labour associations would not be able to function properly and the leaders of the political party always exploit the labour and the associations to gain their own political ends. They also disabused the mind of Mr. K.C. Phillips about the false statement made by Mahimanathan, Perumal of Champion Reef, Ebinezer and Thangaraj of Mysore mine against Mr. Sharma and told Phillips that the labourers must only follow the leadership of Mr. P.R.K. Sharma. Mr. Phillips seems to have told them that he did not issue the notice which has been distributed under his signature and that Mahimanathan and others forced him to sign without letting him know all details contained therein and admitted that it is a mistake to have written in that notice anything against Mr. P.R.K. Sharma. Mr. Phillips does not know how to read and write Tamil. He told Indraraj and Narayanaswami that he will issue another notice under his signature mentioning them that the labourers should not join any political party and that they should all follow the leadership of Mr. P.R.K. Sharma only as he does not belong to any political party. A notice was accordingly drafted in Tamil and was signed by Phillips and Indraraj and Narayanaswami left one Asservadam there to collect the printed notices and bring them to K.G.F. Indraraj and Narayanaswami returned by Mail train to K.G.F. on the 24th

373

It is ascertained that Mahimanatha, Perumal and others came from either Madras or Vellore to Kuppam by Mail train in the early hours of the morning on the 24th instant. As soon as they came there they came to know about Phillips issuing a counter notice to the one that was issued by the under his signature and all of them along with Lakshmana Mudaliar and Ramalingam seem to have threatened Phillips about the consequences that will ensue by his taking such a step and assaulted him also as he persisted in issuing the notice. Phillips seem to have got afraid and refrained from sending the draft notice that had been prepared to the Printing Press for print. Mahimanathan and others came to K.G.F. on the 24th evening and they brought with them a big bundle containing 7000 printed notices. Arrangements are made to secure a copy of this notice to know what these notices are.

On the 24th morning one Govindaswamy of Mysore mine who was transferred from the Picking Floor to the Cyanide Department seems to have resigned as a protest against transfer and was enlisting the sympathy of the other coolies of the Picking Floor to organise a strike on this account. Taking this opportunity one Ubenimer of Carpenters' shop, Mysore mine and another Thangaraj who is unemployed also of Mysore mine joined this Govindaraj and instigated the coolies of the Picking floor to go on strike. These two persons are the members of the Mysore mine committee to represent the old labour union at Kuppam. They went over to the Congress side on the eve of the election to the Legislative Council but found that they were not backed up by the labourers in Mysore mine.

179 As their authority in the Mysore mine dwindled and they had no followers they wanted to get back their leadership by organising this strike. They

They were successful in persuading the coolies of the Picking floor (150 in number) not to go to work on the 24th morning. When the strike materialised they told those coolies that they should not resume work till they told them to resume work. However Indraraj, Narayanaswami and a few others were able to prevail upon the coolies of the Picking floor by about 11 a.m. the same day, to resume work. Ebenizer and Thangaraj there-fore lost their prestige again and do not have any following in the Kyaore mine.

Govindaraj and other committee members of Gorgaum mines who went over to the congress side at the time of the election of the member for the Legislative Council, came and represented to me on the 24th evening that the newly formed committee in Gorgaum are troubling them and they are afraid to go out of their houses as they have been intimidated and as some of them are also assaulted. This is the result of the newly formed committee demanding the key of the labour union office from Rayappan as the labourers in general in Gorgaum have repudiated the self constituted committee in Gorgaum mine as a result of their joining the congress political party, just before the election to the Legislative Council. Rayappan has been continually evading to hand over the key to the newly constituted committee and the resentment between the labourers in general in Gorgaum mine and other new committee they have constituted on one side and the ~~half~~ self ~~self~~-constituted committee on the other side, is growing high. These Govindaraj and others therefore seem to have come to me to get the support of the Government authorities on their side ~~so that their side~~ so that they may regain their power and influence over the labourers in Gorgaum. I told them that as the subject matter of dispute between the new committee

and themselves is with regard to the key of the labour union office they might get the key and hand it over to my possession so that neither party can have any grievances and that the key will be handed over by me to the committee of their union which may be regularly formed under the Labour Act. They promised to do so and went away.

It is ascertained that the labourers of Handydroog mine in general are averse to the actions of Dorairaj and Kittikrishna Nair and Gopal Nair in their joining the congress party attempting to bring in Mr. Thimma Reddy as the President for the Handydroog Labour Union in preference to Mr. Acharya. They are also therefore contemplating to repudiate the self-constituted committee for the Handydroog mine association to elect their own committee members in whom they have got confidence. In this connection one Venkatachallam and Wallajah Hannan of Henry Shaft line who are of Justice party went to Handydroog mine Superintendent on 24-9-41, to seek permission to use the Henry Shaft Drama Hall to conduct a labour meeting there but as the Superintendent was not available they came back. They are arranging to hold a meeting there after obtaining the permission of the Superintendent of the mine.

One Thangavelu a petty shop-keeper in the [illegible] CAFE, Robertsonpet is said to be congress-minded and is instigating Dorairaj. His movements are being watched. Handydroog Union office had been kept open yesterday between 5 and 7.30 p.m. by Dorairaj with a view to see that five labourers from each line would go there at a time as previously arranged, but since nobody attended it was closed at 7-30 p.m.

It is ascertained that Indiraj with four others of Lysore mine, Seetha of Gorgaum mine and

another person of Kandydroog mine left for Kuppam by the Passenger train at 11-30 a.m. in order to induce Phillips again to issue the notice which he agreed to do on the 23rd night to counteract the notice issued under his signature and to ask the labourers to follow the leadership of Mr. P.R.K. Sharma. They are expected to come back this evening or to-morrow morning with the printed notices. It is also ascertained that Anthony of Kysore mine who is a defeated candidate to the Legislative Council is also issuing a notice contradicting what is contained in the notice issued in the name of Phillips, that he (Anthony) had signed the congress pledge and withdrew afterwards under the instigation of Mr. P.R.K. Sharma.

Mahimanathan, Appakutti, Dakshina, Kasila, Perumal, Gnanam, Aseer, Ratnam and CK Gnanamani of Champion Reef and Arone, and Ebinezer of Kysore mine and a few others had a secret meeting in the S.R. Building Andersonpet at about 6 p.m. yesterday. After the termination of the meeting Mahimanathan, Ebenizer and Arone were talking amongst themselves that Sri Sharma and Acharya have played some tricks as a result of which K.C. Phillips has lost his support at Kuppam and is in troubles and that they should help Phillips and Lakshmana Mudalier. They also said that they would see how Narayanaswami would furnish the accounts etc.

Mahimanathan prevented the Champion Reef mine coolies, about 500 in number, from taking their pay to-day saying that as per their request he presented a petition to the Superintendent of the mine for grant of clothing allowance for every one of them and that nothing has been on that. The coolies did not take their pay. Mahimanathan went and came back in a few minutes and said that the Superintendent replied to him that the matter would be discussed in the Committee and the result intimated. The labourers wanted an immediate reply, hence Mahimanathan approached the

the Superintendent for the second time, but brought the same reply. He then asked the coolies to take their pay when all the labourers shouted and one Manikyam said that their leader Mahimanathan has turned unreliable and that it is no use to follow such incapable leaders. Then they all went to take their pay.

Mr. T.L.A. Acharya returned to K.G.F. this day morning.

Further developments are being watched and will be duly reported.

Yours sincerely,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,(Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

"Copy"

S. Narayana Rao
26/9/41
District Magistrate,
Kolar Dt.

557

D. O. No. 5/41-42/S.B.
Encls.(6)

E. G. B. PEEL, Esq., C.I.E.,
Inspector-General of Police
in Mysore.

DEPUTY'S OFFICE
28. SEP. 1941
NO. 2695

1012/B 762

BANGALORE

Dated September 26/27, 1941.

OFFICE OF THE
MINISTER FOR LAW
SEP 28 1941
No. 3125

I enclose for the information of Government a copy of a letter No. C.C. 20/40-41 dated 25-9-41 received from the Special Superintendent of Police Kolar Gold Fields, regarding the activities of labourers in Kolar Gold Fields.

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Mysore,
Bangalore.

N. PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 25th Sept. 1941.

CC.20/40-41.

In continuation of my previous reports, regarding the labour situation at K.G.F., I beg to state that on the night of the 23rd instant Indrar Narayanaswami and another person of Mysore mine went to Kuppam by Mail train and discussed with Phillips about the notice issued under his signature. They told him that by introducing political parties into labour associations the labour associations would not be able to function properly and the leaders of the political party always exploit the labour and the associations to gain their own political ends. They also disabused the mind of Mr. K.C. Phillips about the false statement made by Mahimanathan, Perumal of Champion Reef, Ebinezer and Thangaraj of Mysore mine against Mr. Sharma and told Phillips that the labourer must only follow the leadership of Mr. P.R.K. Sharma. Mr. Phillips seems to have told them that he did not issue the notice which has been distributed under his signature and that Mahimanathan and others forced him to sign without letting him know all details contained therein and admitted that it is a mistake to have written in that notice anything against Mr. P.R.K. Sharma. Mr. Phillips does not know how to read and write Tamil. He told Indraraj and Narayanaswami that he will issue another notice under his signature mentioning them that the labourers should not join any political party and that they should all follow the leadership of Mr. P.R.K. Sharma only as he does not belong to any political party. A notice was accordingly drafted in Tamil and was signed by Phillips and Indraraj and Narayanaswami left one Asservadam there to collect the printed notice and bring them to K.G.F. Indraraj and Narayanaswami returned by Mail train to K.G.F. on the 24th

It is ascertained that Mahimanatha, Perumal and others came from either Madras or Vellore to Kuppam by Mail train in the early hours of the morning on the 24th instant. As soon as they came there they came to know about Phillips issuing a counter notice to the one that was issued by them under his signature and all of them along with Lakshmana Mudaliar and Ramalingam seem to have threatened Phillips about the consequences that will ensue by his taking such a step and assaulted him also as he persisted in issuing the notice. Phillips seem to have got afraid and refrained from sending the draft notice that had been prepared to the Printing Press for print. Mahimanathan and others came to K.G.F. on the 24th evening and they brought with them a big bundle containing 7000 printed notices. Arrangements are made to secure a copy of this notice to know what these notices are.

On the 24th morning one Govindaswamy of Mysore mine who was transferred from the Picking Floor to the Cyanide Department seems to have resigned as a protest against transfer and was enlisting the sympathy of the other coolies of the Picking Floor to organise a strike on this account. Taking this opportunity one Ebenizer of Carpenters' shop, Mysore mine and another Thangaraj who is unemployed also of Mysore mine joined this Govindaraj and instigated the coolies of the Picking floor to go on strike. These two persons are the members of the Mysore mine committee to represent the old labour union at Kuppam. They went over to the Congress side on the eve of the election to the Legislative Council but found that they were not looked up by the labourers in Mysore mine. As their authority in the Mysore mine dwindled and they had no followers they wanted to get back their leadership by organising this strike. They

They were successful in pursuading the coolies of the Picking floor (150 in number) not to go to work on the 24th morning. When the strike materialised they told those coolies that they should not resume work till they told them to resume work. However Indraraj, Narayanaswami and a few others were able to prevail upon the coolies of the Picking floor by about 11 a.m. the same day, to resume work. Ebenizer and Thangaraj there-fore lost their prestige again and do not have any following in the Mysore mine.

Govindaraj and other committee members of Oorgaum mines who went over to the congress side at the time of the election of the member for the Legislative Council, came and represented to me on the 24th evening that the newly formed committee in Oorgaum are troubling them and they are afraid to go out of their houses as they have been intimidated and as some of them are also assaulted. This is the result of the newly formed committee demanding the key of the labour union office from Rayappan as the labourers in general in Oorgaum have repudiated the self constituted committee in Oorgaum mine as a result of their joining the congress political party, just before the election to the Legislative Council. Rayappan has been continually evading to hand over the key to the newly constituted committee and the resentment between the labourers in general in Oorgaum mine and other new committee they have constituted on one side and the ~~half~~ self-constituted committee on the other side, is growing high. These Govindaraj and others therefore seem to have come to me to get the support of the Government authorities on their side so that ~~their side so that~~ they may regain their power and influence over the labourers in Oorgaum. I told them that as the subject matter of dispute between the new committee

and themselves is with regard to the key of the labour union office they might get the key and hand it over to my possession so that neither party can have any grievances and that the key will be handed over by me to the committee of their union which may be regularly formed under the Labour Act. They promised to do so and went away.

It is ascertained that the labourers of Nandydroog mine in general are averse to the actions of Dorairaj and Kuttikrishna Nair and Gopal Nair in their joining the congress party attempting to bring in Mr. Thimma Reddy as the President for the Nandydroog Labour Union in preference to Mr. Acharya. They are also therefore contemplating to repudiate the self-constituted committee for the Nandydroog mine association to elect their own committee members in whom they have got confidence. In this connection one Venkatachallam and Wallajah Mannar of Henry Shaft line who are of Justice party went to Nandydroog mine Superintendent on 24-9-41, to seek permission to use the Henry Shaft Drama Hall to conduct a labour meeting there but as the Superintendent was not available they came back. They are arranging to hold a meeting there after obtaining the permission of the Superintendent of the mine.

One Thangavelu a petty shop-keeper in the NATHAN'S CAFE, Robertsonpet is said to be congress-minded and is instigating Dorairaj. His movements are being watched. Nandydroog Union office had been kept open yesterday between 5 and 7.30 p.m. by Dorairaj with a view to see that five labourers from each line would go there at a time as previously arranged, but since nobody attended it was closed at 7-30 p.m.

It is ascertained that Indraraj with four others of Mysore mine, Seetha of Oorgaum mine and

another person of Nandydroog mine left for Kuppam by the Passenger train at 11-30 a.m. in order to induce Phillips again to issue the notice which he agreed to do on the 23rd night to counteract the notice issued under his signature and to ask the labourers to follow the leadership of Mr. P.R.K. Sharma. They are expected to come back this evening or to-morrow morning with the printed notices. It is also ascertained that Anthony of Mysore mine who is a defeated candidate to the Legislative Council is also issuing a notice contradicting what is contained in the notice issued in the name of Phillips, that he (Anthony) had signed the congress pledge and withdrew afterwards under the instigation of Mr. P.R.K. Sharma.

Mahimanathan, Appakutti, Dakshina, Masila Perumal, Gnanam, Aseer, Ratnam and Gnanamani of Champion Reef and Arone, and Ebinezer of Mysore mine and a few others had a secret meeting in the S.R. Building Andersonpet at about 6 p.m. yesterday. After the termination of the meeting Mahimanathan, Ebenizer and Arone were talking amongst themselves that Sri Sharma and Acharya have played some tricks as a result of which K.C. Phillips has lost his support at Kuppam and is in troubles and that they should help Phillips and Lakshmana Mudaliar. They also said that they would see how Narayanaswami would furnish the accounts etc.

Mahimanathan prevented the Champion Reef mine coolies about 500 in number from taking their pay to-day saying that as per their request he presented a petition to the Superintendent of the mine for grant of clothing allowance for every one of them and that nothing has been on that. The coolies did not take their pay. Mahimanathan went and came back in a few minutes and said that the Superintendent replied to him that the matter would be discussed in the Commit and the result intimated. The labourers wanted an immediate reply, hence Mahimanathan approached the

the Superintendent for the second time, but brought the same reply. He then asked the coolies to take their pay when all the labourers shouted and one Manikyam said that their leader Mahimanathan has turned unreliable and that it is no use to follow such incapable leaders. Then they all went to take their pay.

Mr. T.L.A. Acharya returned to K.G.F. this day morning.

Further developments are being watched and will be duly reported.

Yours sincerely,

SD/- N. PUTTARANGASWAMY,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,(Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

Copies in duplicate forwarded, with compliments, to the Superintendent of Police, Special Branch in Mysore, Bangalore.

Puttaranga

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

SECRET

No. 5/41-42/S.B.
Encls.(7)

1013 7 L
CB.

E. G. B. PEEL, Esq., C.I.E.,
Inspector-General of Police
in Mysore.

BANGALORE

DEPUTY'S OFFICE
28. SEP. 1941
NO. 2696

OFFICE OF THE
MINISTER FOR LAW
SEP 28 1941
No. 3126

Dated Septr. 27, 1941.

My dear Kesavaniengar,

I enclose for the information of Government a copy of a letter No.CC.20/40-41 dated September 26, 1941 received from the Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, regarding the activities of labourers in Kolar Gold Fields and the proceedings of a public meeting held there.

Yours
Peel

Sd/d

Law Minister & Dewan
28/9/41

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Mysore,
Bangalore.

N. PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 26th Sept. 1941.

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports, I beg to state that it is reported that there was a meeting of labourers at 6 p.m. yesterday in the Henry Shaft Drama Hall with about 150 labourers. Venkatachallam and two others said that the Union would be registered and the new committee members have been appointed and that the subscriptions may be paid reguarly. A copy of the report regarding the proceedings of the meeting is enclosed.

Shanmugam and Ebenizer are said to have discussed together near the Assay Office yesterday that Indraraj was collecting annas two from the labourers on the ground that Phillips at Kuppam was assaulted and that he should go there, that Indraraj is thus spreading false rumour unnecessaril etc.

Mr. Acharya went to G. Narayanaswami's house as the latter was ill and then met Govindaswami and enquired about the cause of his resignation and subsequent developments. Then he went to the Picking Floor and had a talk with Mr. Kendall for about an hour. Mr. Acharya advised the coolies there not to go on strike, but to leave everything to the Sangham. Govindaswami is said to have been asked to go to Assay Office today to see the Superintendent of the mine.

Mr. K.C. Phillips has issued printed Tamil phamplets counteracting the one he had issued before and has advised the coolies to follo the lead of Mr. Sharma unnanimously and also help him to go over to K.G.F. A meeting under the presidentship of Mr. Sharma is also announced on the 28th instant at Budugur. Cppy of the English

translation of the notice is enclosed.

On 25-9-41 at about 7 p.m. Champion Reef committee members namely Mahimanadan, Dakshina, Dorai, Raji, Perumal, Subramany and others about 20 in all assembled at the S.R. Building at Andersonpet and held a secret meeting till about 9 p.m. Some of those that had assembled were from Mysore mines.

This day morning the labourers of Bullan Shaft, Oorgaum asked the Superintendent of the mine to give clothing allowance to all of them but the Superintendent replied it will be given only to those that had put in an attendance of 140 days during the last 6 months and not to all. Some 400 or 500 labourers mostly Company coolies stopped away from work. The Superintendent also went away underground. At about 11 a.m. the coolies were prevailed upon to resume work through one Mr. Perumal who is the Representative Assembly member but at that stage the Chief mining Agent refused to take them for work as it was very late for the morning shift. The Superintendent was requested by the Chief Inspector of mines if he would arrange to send these coolies for work in the afternoon shift as the coolies were willing to go for work in the afternoon shift in view of the fact that some of them would lose the bonus for non-attendance to-day. The Superintendent pleaded inabilit even to do this as they are all company coolies who are meant for working in the morning shift only and he cannot take them in the afternoon as it is not possible to arrange for supervision in the afternoon. Then these coolies wanted to spread the strike and wanted to prevent the coolies of the afternoon shift from going to work. They were prevailed upon not to come in the way of the afternoon shift coolies from going to work. The coolies in the afternoon shift went to work as

usual. It is ascertained that this strike was organised by Rayappan and his party who are congress-minded to get some influence over the labourers as they have lost the following of the labourers now.

There was a meeting in the Corgaum Drama hall in the afternoon when about 150 persons assembled there. They resolved to send petitions to Government, the Superintendent of the mine, the Assistant Labour Commissioner, the Chief Inspector of mines and the Special Superintendent of Police representing that for the first time all the labourers should be given clothing allowance irrespective of the number of days have put in, in the previous half year and that attendance bonus should be given for such of those that would lose it for having not gone to work this morning.

It is ascertained that Indraraj has received a telegram this morning from Mr. P.R.K. Sharma that he cannot start to K.G.F. now and that he has asked him to write for details, about the situation at K.G.F. It is also learnt that Indraraj, K.C. Phillips, and Mr. Acharya are going to Madras by the Mail train to-night to meet Mr. Sharma and explain the local situation and bring him to K.G.F. with them either to-morrow or on the 28th morning.

Further developments are being watched and will be duly reported.

Yours sincerely,

SD/- N. PUTTARANGASWAMY,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A., (Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

Copies in duplicate, forwarded with compliments, to the Superintendent of Police, Special Branch in Mysore, Bangalore.

54

Puttaranga

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

SUBMITTED.

Beg to report that a meeting of the labourers was held inside the Drama Hall of Henry Shaft X thisday at 5 p.m. About 100 labourers had gathered. One Venkatesh suggested the name of P. Murugesh to be the President of this day proceedings. Accordingly P. Murugesh sat in the Presidential chair.

Venkatachallam spoke. " Brothern, I need not dilate on the long 28 days' strike. We struggled without food and fought for our rights and legitimate privileges. The mining authorities were kind enough to give one anna enhanced wages. Some of the labourers expressed that they ~~wait~~ wont resume for work till Mr. Sharma asked them to resume work. But there was Section 17 against Mr. Sharma then. We have always did our best not to go against the Government. We always look forward to the Mysore Government for our betterment. Mr. Sharma organised meetings at Budugur and represented to the Government and mining authorities that what the labourers wanted was the formation and recognition of Labour Unions. Ultimately the Government has recognised the formation of Labour unions to redress our grievances. If today the labour union is recognised, it is due to the single handed continued sacrifice of Mr. Sharma. You are all aware with what respect and with what devotion we brought him to K.G.F. and by way of expression of our respect and devotion, we arranged a georgeous procession and expressed our respect to him. Some people are now carrying on anti-propoganda against Mr. Sharma scandalising his name that he is in league with the Government and mining authorities. Is that fair and just? I ask. Some of the labourers want the congress to lead us instead of Mr. Sharma - where was the congress since 60 years. Did they offer us any help during any time? What has the congress to do with the labourers. We neither want the congress nor Justice nor in fact any parties to interfer with the labourers. Labourers are labourers. They are not congressites. They are not

justicites nor ~~or they~~ Brahmins or non-Brahmins. They are only labourers. We want only labour union. There were 7000 votes at K.G.F. most of them did not use their rights to vote. Some mischievous men guided our uneducated and unsophisticated labourers to vote for Ramadass but yet majority of labourers voted for Anthony. It was because 1000 solid voters at Bangalore voted in Bangalore to Ramadass, he won in the elections. We neither want the congress to help us nor do we, least, be guided by Ramadass. We will not talk of what has happened. Now we have to wake up. There are 8000 labourers in the Nandydroog mines. Every one of them should become members of the Labour Union and every one should pay subscriptions regularly.

Rajamanickam spoke next. "Brothers, The Labour Union will be registered shortly, by about ten days. Hence it is up to you all to become members. When I along with my friends approached the former committee members in order to check the accounts but they are dodging over since 3 days to open the labour union office itself. They have even gone to the extent of telling us that the labour union office would have been open for us if we had voted for the HORSE. I will let you know in course of time the settlement we arrive at. In ten days our unions will be registered. We have elected new members for the Union. You will have to pay subscriptions only for them and every one of you must sign in this list to show that you have all become members of the Union.

A. Shakeran @ Irichan read a list of new members elected in the lines - (1) Muthu, (2) Mannar, (3) V.P. Rajagopal (4) Manickam (5) Babu, (6) Rangaswami (7) Ratnam (8) Raju. Malayalee line - (9) Palinimala, Erode lines (10) Rangaswami (11) B.C. Muniswamy.

Iruchan @ Shekaran and Venkatesh spoke next. They only reiterated what the previous speakers spoke. Joseph and Dorairaj attended the meeting in the end. They neither spoke nor took part in any manner in the proceedings.

At about 6.30 p.m. they all dispersed.

SD/- B. NAGHABUSHANA ARADH

Sub Inspector.
25/9/41.

***

" COPY "

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

NR/-

DOUBT KILLER.

K.G.F. labour union Kuppam,

Friends! I have much grief in hearing the unrest among K.G.F. labourers, after publication of my notice dated 21-9-41. I had published that notice, as I was kept in th dark regarding the true state of affairs happening there frequently.

Further during recent-date occurrences both joyful ar otherwise have succeeded one another frequently. But you must all join together, will not pay heed to any party that tries to create a split among the labourers, obey the doctrines of labour union, obey our leader Mr. P.R.K. Sharma and follow his lead - Sink all your differences. All the 27,000 labourers must join in one leage. Then you will be helping me to come over to your midst soon.

Further I am very eager to meet you all. On 28-9-41 a meeting under the presidency of our leader P.R.K. Sharma has been arranged to be held at Budugur under the famour Tamarind tree. I request you all to attend. Know that no other party can do any help except the labour Union and with that belief strengthen your Union.

Yours,

K.C. Phillips,

General Secretary.

***

" COPY "

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

NR/-

*268

398

GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE

1040/CB 70

Telegraphic Address

OFFICE OF
The District Magistrate,
Kolar District,
(Camp) Mysore.

No. C.C.27/41-42.
Encls. Three.

Date 28th September 1941.

CHIEF SECRETARY
29 SEP. 1941
GOVT. OF MYSORE

Rajasevaprasakta B.T. Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore,
(Camp) Mysore.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward, herewith, for information a copy of D.O.No.C.C.20/40-41 dated 26th September 1941 together with its two enclosures received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, regarding the Labour situation on the Fields.

I have the honour to be,
S i r,
Your most obedient servant,

S. Nanjappa

DISTRICT MAGISTRATE,
Kolar District.

MVK.

399

M. PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.A.
Spl. Superintendent of Pol

Champion Reefs,
Dated 26th Sept. 1941.

CC.20/40-41

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports, I beg to state that it is reported that there was a meeting of labourers at 6 p.m. yesterday in the Henry Shaft Drama Hall with about 150 labourers. Venkatachallam and two others said that the Union would be registered and the new committee members have been appointed and that the subscriptions may be paid reguarly. A copy of the report regarding the proceedings of the meeting is enclosed.

Shanmugam and Ebenizer are said to have discussed together near the Assay Office yesterday that Indraraj was collecting annas two from the labourers on the ground that Phillips at Kuppam was assaulted and that he should go there, that Indraraj is this spreading false rumour unnecessarily etc.

Mr. Acharya went to G. Narayanaswami's house as the latter was ill and then met Govindaswami and enquired about the cause of his resignation and subsequent developments. Then he went to the Picking Floor and had a talk with Mr. Kendall for about an hour. Mr. Acharya advised the coolies there not to go on strike, but to leave everything to the Sangham. Govindaswami is said to have been asked to go to Assay Office today to see the Superintendent of the mine.

Mr. K.C. Phillips has issued printed Tamil phamplets counteracting the one he had issued before and has advised the coolies to follow the lead of Mr. Sharma unnanimously and also help him to go over to K.G.F. A meeting under the presidentship of Mr. Sharma is also announced on the 28th instant at Budugur. Copy of the English

translation of the notice is enclosed.

On 25-9-41 at about 7 p.m. Champion Reef committee members namely Mahimanadan, Dakshina, Dorai, Raji, Perumal, Subramany and others about 20 in all assembled at the S.R. Building at Andersonpet and held a secret meeting till about 9 p.m. Some of those that had assembled were from Mysore mines.

This day morning the labourers of Bullan Shaft, Oorgaum asked the Superintendent of the mine to give clothing allowance to all of them but the Superintendent replied it will be given ~~to~~ only to those that had put in an attendance of 140 days during the last 6 months and not to all. Some 400 or 500 labourers mostly Company coolies stopped away from work. The Superintendent also went away ~~from work underground~~ underground. At about 11 a.m. the coolies were prevailed upon to resume work through one Mr. Perumal who is the Representative Assembly member but at that stage the Chief mining Agent refused to take them for work as it was very late for the morning shift. The Superintendent was requested by the Chief Inspector of mines if he would arrange to send these coolies for work in the afternoon shift as the coolies were willing to go for work in the afternoon shift in view of the fact that some of them would lose the bonus for non-attendance to-day. The Superintendent pleaded inability even to do this as they are all company coolies who are meant for working in the morning shift only andhe cannot take them in the afternoon as it is not possible to arrange for supervision in the afternoon. Then these coolies wanted to spread the strike and wanted to prevent the coolies of the afternoon shift from going to work. They were prevailed upon not to come in the way of the afternoon shift coolies from going to work. The coolies in the afternoon shift went to work as

usual. It is ascertained that this strike was organised by Rayappan and his party who are congress-minded to get some influence over the labourers as they have lost the following of the labourers now.

There was a meeting in the Oorgaum Drama hall in the afternoon when about 150 persons assembled there. They resolved to send petitions to Government the Superint ndent of the mine, the Assistant Labour Commissioner, the Chief Inspector of mines and the Special Superintendent of Police representing that for the first time all the labourers should be given clothing allowance irrespective of the number of days they have put in, in the previous half year and that attendance bonus should be given for such of those that would lose it for having not gone to work this morning.

It is ascertained that Indraraj has received a telegram this morning from Mr. P.R.K. Sharma that he cannot start to K.G.F. now and that he has asked him to write for details, about the situation at K.G.F. It is also learnt that Indraraj, K.C. Phillips, and Mr. Acharya are going to Madras by the Mail train to-night to meet Mr. Sharma and explain the local situation and bring him to K.G.F. with them either to-morrow or on the 28th morning.

Further developments are being watched and will be duly reported.

Yours sincerely,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A., (Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

"Copy"

S. Narayana Rao

District Magistrate,
Kolar District.

SUBMITTED.

Beg to report that a meeting of the labourers was held inside the Dharma Hall of Henry Shaft X thisday at 5 p.m. About 100 labourers had gathered. One Venkatesh suggested the name of P. Murugesh to be the President of this day proceedings. Accordingly P. Murugesh sat in the Presiddential chair.

Venkatachallam spoke. " Brothern, I need not dilate on the long 22 days' strike. We struggled without food and fought for our rights and legitimate privileges. The mining authorities were kind enough to give one anna enhanced wages. Some of the labourers expressed that they ~~will~~ won't resume for work till Mr. Sharma asked them to resume work. But there was Section 17 against Mr. Sharma then. We have always did our best not to go against the Government. We always look forward to the Mysore Government for our betterment. Mr. Sharma organised meetings at Budugur and represented to the Government and mining authorities that what the labourers wanted was the formation and recognition of Labour Unions. Ultimately the Government has recognised the formation of labour unions to redress our grievances. If today the labour union is recognised, it is due to the single handed continued sacrifice of Mr. Sharma. You are all aware with what respect and with what devotion we brought him to L.G.F. and by way of expression of our respect and devotion, we arranged a gorgeous procession and expressed our respect to him. Some people are now carrying on antipropogonda against Mr. Sharma scandalising his name that he is in league with the Government and mining authorities. Is that fair and just? I ask. Some of the labourers want the congress to lead us instead of Mr. Sharma - where was the congress since 60 years. Did they offer us any help during any time? What has the congress to do with the labourers. We ~~Chg~~ neither want the congress nor Justice nor in fact any parties to interfer with the labourers. Labourers are labourers. They are not congressites. They are ~~see~~

801

Justicites nor ~~or they~~ Brahmins or non-Brahmins. They are only labourers. We want only labour union. There were 7000 ~~[illegible]~~ votes at K.G.F. most of them did not use their rights to vote. Some mischievous men guided our uneducated and unsophisticated labourers to vote for Ramadass but yet majority of labourers voted for Anthony. It was because 1000 solid voters at Bangalore voted in Bangalore to Ramadass, he won in the elections. We neither want the congress to help us nor do we, least, be guided by Ramadass. We will not talk of what has happened. Now ~~a~~ we have to wake up. There are 8000 labourers in the Mandydroog mines. Every one of them should become members of the Labour Union and every one should pay subscriptions regularly.

Rajamanickam spoke next. "Brothers, The Labour Union will be registered shortly, by about ten days. Hence it is up to you all to become members. When I along with my friends approached the former committee members in order to check the accounts but they are dodging over since 3 days to open the labour union office itself. They have even gone to the extent of telling us that the labour union office would have been open for us if we had voted for the R.C.C. I will let you know in course of time the settlement we arrive at. In ten days our unions will be registered. We have elected new members for the Union. You will have to pay subscriptions only for them and every one of you must sign in this list to show that you have all become members of the Union.

A. Shakeran & Irichan ~~Irichan~~ read a list of new members elected in the lines - (1) Muthu, (2) Kannar, (3) V.P. Rajagopal (4) Manickam (5) Babu, (6) Rangaswami (7) Ratnam (8) Raju. Palayalee line - (9) Palinimala Race lines (10) Rangaswami (11) B.C. Muniswamy.

803

Truchan O Shekaran and Venkatesh spoke next. They only reiterated what the previous speakers spoke. Joseph and Dorairaj attended the meeting in the end. They neither spoke nor took part in any manner in the proceedings.

At about 6.30 p.m. they all dispersed.

SD/- D. MASHAR SHAHA ALADI

Sub Inspector.
25/5/41.

" COPY.

Subbaraman

1.

Dy. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

" Copy "

District Magistrate,
Kolar District.

"DOUBLE MILLER."

K.G.F. labour union Kuppam,

Friends! I have much grief in hearing the unrest among K.G.F. labourers, after publication of my notice dated 21-9-41. I had published that notice, as I was kept in the dark regarding the true state of affairs happening there frequently.

Further during recent-date occurrences both joyful and otherwise have succeeded one another frequently. But you must all join together, will not pay heed to any party that tries to create a split among the labourers, obey the doctrines of labour union, obey our leader Mr. P.R.K. Sharma and follow his lead - Sink all your differences. All the 27,000 labourers must join in one league. Then you will be helping me to come over to your midst soon.

Further I am very eager to meet you all. On 28-9-41 a meeting under the presidency of our leader P.R.K. Sharma has been arranged to be held at Budugur under the famour Tamarind tree. I request you all to attend. Know that no other party can do any help except the labour Union and with that belief strengthen your Union.

Yours,

K.C. Phillips,

General Secretary.

***

" COPY "

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

MR/-

" Copy "

Dt Magistrate,
Kolar District.

D. O. No. 5/41-42/S.B
Encl-1

SECRET

1041/CB. 807

E. G. B. PEEL, Esq., C.I.E.,
Inspector-General of Police
in Mysore.

BANGALORE
September 28, 1941.

OFFICE OF THE
MINISTER FOR LAW
SEP 29 1941
No. 3172

My dear Kesavaiengar,

I enclose for the information of Government a copy of a report No. CC.20/40-41 dated 27th September 1941 received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, regarding the activities of labourers and the proceedings of a public meeting held there.

Yours
Sd/-

Sd/-
(Law Minister)
29/9

29/9
3009

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secy. to the Govt. of His Highness
The Maharaja of Mysore.

PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Pl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 27th Sept. 1941.

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports, beg to state that it is reported that there was a meeting of labourers in the School at Oriental line Nandydroog mine yesterday at about 6 p.m. and the gathering was about 150 coolies. Muniswami, Maistry of Nandydroog mine was in the chair. Venkatachallam and Shanmugam spoke about the formation of the unions in K.G.F. and the uncalled for interference by the Congress people who were no where before Mr. Sharma came and did so much. They also advised the coolies to enroll themselves as members of the Union and pay subscriptions regularly. Venkatachallam read out the names of new members and requested the coolies to give their names and ticket numbers to them only and to nobody else. The meeting terminated at about 7-30 p.m. A copy of the English version of the proceedings is enclosed herewith.

This day morning underground Stuff coolies working under Contractor Mr. Abdul Sammath of Oorgaum mine did not go under- ground for work on the plea that clothing allowance was not given to all. I arranged for the leaders advising them to resume work and on this advice they all resumed work.

It is ascertained that this attempted strike by the Stuff Coolies is also organised by Rayappan and his party who are congressites in order that they may interview after the strike and regain their influence with the labourers, on the plea of getting their grievances redressed. Their object was frustrated even today and all the coolies resumed work.

Yesterday evening some of the leaders of Oorgaum mine came with Mr. Acharya to the Labour Assistant Commissioner and represented that such of the coolies who would lose bonus on account of their not going underground for work yesterday may either be given the bonus or they may be permitted to work on Sunday the 28th instant to make them qualify for bonus for this fortnight. They also represented that clothing allowance may be given to all persons irrespective of their attendance now and that the attendance of 140 days for every 6 months to qualify for clothing allowance be insisted upon hereafter. The Labour Assistant Commissioner, told them that their request for bonus to such of those who would lose the same for non-attendance yesterday will be placed before the Superintendent of the mine and that his decision will be communicated today. Regarding clothing allowance nothing could be done now till the associations are formed and registered. This morning these persons represented to the Superintendent to give them work for to-morrow to qualify them for bonus but the Superintendent refused to grant their request.

I met the Superintendent of the mine at 11 a.m this morning with the Labour Assistant Commissioner and explained to him the exact situation as to how different political parties are trying to get hold of and exploit labour on the field and how the Mysore State Congress particularly is doing its utmost to get some influence on the field in order to get hold of the Associations that might be formed under the new Labour Act. I also told him that in the larger interest, it would be expedient to concede the small request made by the labour who stopped from work yesterday morning and to either grant them the attendance

bonus inspite of their non-attendance yesterday or to provide work for them to-morrow in order that they may qualify for the bonus which they would otherwise lose for non-attedance yesterday. He expressed a desire that I should explain the position to the other members of the mining board also and after this was done they agreed that such of the labourers that would lose their attendance bonus owing to their non-attendance yesterday would be provided work to-morrow as a special case in order to qualify them for the attendance bonus. After they left the place the Superintendent of the Oorgaum mine again telephoned to me saying that he has revised the decision regarding providing work to the labourers to-morrow and that he had decided that all of them that would lose attendance bonus owing to the absence yesterday would be given the attendance bonus without ~~that~~ their working to-morrow. Arrangements are made to communicate this decision to the labourers. There is no further trouble for the present.

Messrs. Acharya and Indraraj left for Madras yesterday night by Mail train to bring Mr. P.R.K. Sharma here. They are expected to take K.C.Phillips with them as they have arranged to get him to Kuppam Railway Station by the Mail train which goes there. They are expected to return either this evening or tomorrow morning.

It is ascertained that Anthony of Mysore mine who is the defeated candidate for Legislative Council is issuing a notice to-day regretting the allegations made against him in the lengthy notice issued under the signature of K.C. Phillips a few days ago

Further developments are being watched and will be duly reported.

Yours sincerely,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,(Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

Copies in duplicate forwarded, with compliments, to the Superintendent of Police, Special Branch in Mysore, Bangalore.

Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

Proceedings of the meeting held at the School in Oriental line, Nandydroog mine by the labourers on 26-9-41 at 6 p.m.

The meeting was held in the School at 6 p.m. About 150 labourers had gathered. Mr. Muniswamy, Rail-Maistry, Nandydroog mine presided. Messrs. Venkatachalam and S.R. Shanmugam spoke. The speeches were in Tamil.

The Chairman Mr. Muniswamy spoke as follows :- "Brothers! We struggled for the last 1½ years to get the labour union. The benevolent Government was generous enough to grant the same. But the ~~compress~~ Congress people want to bring in a congressite to be the President of the Labour Union, saying that the congress members alone can help the labourers. Thereby they have created parties among the labourers. We do not want any party. If the congressite were our ~~leaders~~ helpers where were they all these days? We were in absolute darkness for the last 60 years and Mr. P.R.K. Sharma has showed the way for us. And now the congress people are coming here to help us. But you know what the congress has helped you. The union given to us is a labour union and as such none else other than the labourers have got to come into it and work for it. In case any body who is not a labourer comes here and creates parties the labourers will suffer.

Mr. Venkatachalam spoke next as follows :- "Brothers! I want to tell you a few things. You all know that how Mr. P.R.K. Sharma worked strenously for the betterment of labourers. Even then some of our brothern have misunderstood him and say that they do not want him. Is it justifiable? It was he who tried to get us the labour union. When he had been to K.G.F. last time he selected the committee members in the public meeting held at the Gymkhana Ground and he also selected Mr. T.L. Acharya to be the President of the labour union of Nandydroog mines. Now the same committee members say that they do not want Mr. T.L. Acharya to be the President of the union. Who are those

819/

committee members? Who gave them so much of power? We, the 8000 labourers of Nandydroog mine had elected them as the committee members. Think whether they should carry out the will of the labourers or their own. Now, they appear to have been saying that only those who voted for the 'Horse Mark' can enter the labour union office and not others. Let them have their horse. We shall do our own work. Mr. Ramadass came out successful on account of the 1000 solid votes given to him at Bangalore in addition to the few he secured here. What if? Nobody need poke his nose in our labour union. But what I tell you is this. Our Union will be registered within 8 or 10 days. Within that time every one of us should join the Union and enroll as a member of the union. Nobody should fail. We have got to inform the fact to the Government within 2-10-1941. Hence all should become the members of the Union.

Lastly S.R. Desingh @ Shanmugam spoke. Brothers, Mr. Venkatachalam has told you everything. You please do not give your subscriptions to the old committee members. Our Union will be very shortly got registered. Therefore all should become the members of the union. It is of no use or one or two people becoming members. All the 27,000 should be the members of the union. We have got to send up an application to the Government in this matter. Our union will be registered within 8 or 10 days. If you have party spirits within you there will be no use to you. We have given the application for type. We had no money to meet the expenses of typing etc. Some 14 of our brothern subscribed annas eight per man. We have got to carry out the work on hand with that amount alone. Brothers, You need not give your subscriptions now. Please enroll yourselves as members to the Union and we have prepared a list. You please give us your names and ticket numbers, then alone we will be able to know the strength of the list. All those who have now come here may give their names and tick numbers and the rest may give them in their respective

15

821 ✓

to the new members who approach them.

The following names were read out by Venkatachalam : 1. Muniswamy Maistry, (2) Ponnuswamy, (3), Gnanamani;(4) Vadivelu, (5) Thangaraj, (6) Krishnaswamy. You give your names if these people were to come to you and to none else. Some gave their names there alone.

At about 7 p.m. M. Dorairaj and Joseph came there. They heard the speeches. The meeting terminated at about 7.30 p.m. Venkatachalam announced that there would be another meeting at Kennedy's line to-morrow in the Drama Hall. Dorairaj and Joseph went away saying "We will see as to how you would conduct meeting to-morrow at Kennedy's line".

All the labourers dispersed quietly.

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

NR/

GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE

105-8 CB 823

Telegraphic Address

OFFICE OF

The District Magistrate,

Kolar District,

(Camp) Mysore.

No. C.C.27/41-42.
Encls. Two.

Date 30th September 1941.

Rajasevaprasakta B.T. Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,

Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore,

Bangalore.

Sir,

CB
MS
2/10

I have the honour to forward, herewith, a copy of D.O. Letter No:C.C.20/40-41 dat[illegible] September 1941 together with that of its enclosure received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, regarding the Labour situation on the Fields.

I have the honour to be,
S i r,
Your most obedient servant,

30/9

STRICT MAGISTRATE,
Kolar District.

J. PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 27th Sept. 1941.

825

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports, I beg to state that it is reported that there was a meeting of labourers in the School at Oriental line Nandydroog mine yesterday at about 6 p.m. and the gathering was about 150 coolies. Muniswami, Maistry of Nandydroog mine was in the chair. Venkatachallam and Shanmugam spoke about the formation of the unions in K.G.F. and the uncalled for interference by the Congress people who were no where before Mr. Sharma came and did so much. They also advised the coolies to enrol themselves as members of the Union and pay subscriptions regularly. Venkatachallam read out the names of new members and requested the coolies to give their names and ticket numbers to them only and to nobody else. The meeting terminated at about 7-30 p.m. A copy of the English version of the proceedings is enclosed herewith.

This day morning underground Stuff coolies working under Contractor Mr. Abdul Sammath of Corgaum mine did not go under- ground for work on the plea that clothing allowance was not given to all. I arranged for the leaders advising them to resume work and on this advice they all resumed work.

It is ascertained that this attempted strike by the Stuff Coolies is also organised by Rayappan and his party who are congressites in order that they may interview after the strike and regain their influence with the labourers, on the plea of getting their grievances redressed. Their object was frustrated even today and all the coolies resumed work.

16

827/

Yesterday evening some of the leaders of Corgaum mine came with Mr. Acharya to the Labour Assistant Commissioner and represented that such of the coolies who would lose bonus on account of their not going underground for work yesterday may either be given the bonus or they may be permitted to work on Sunday the 28th instant to make them qualify for bonus for this fortnight. They also represented that clothing allowance may be given to all persons irrespective of their attendance now and that the attendance of 140 days for every 6 months to qualify for clothing allowance be insisted upon hereafter. The Labour Assistant Commissioner, told them that their request for bonus to such of those who would lose the same for non-attendance yesterday will be placed before the Superintendent of the mine and that his decision will be communicated today. Regarding clothing allowance nothing could be done now till the associations are formed and registered. This morning these persons represented to the Superintendent to give them work for to-morrow to qualify them for bonus but the Superintendent refused to grant their request.

I met the Superintendent of the mine at 11 a.m this morning with the Labour Assistant Commissioner and explained to him the exact situation as to how different political parties are trying to get hold of and exploit labour on the field and how the Mysore State Congress particularly is doing its utmost to get some influence on the field in order to get hold of the Associations that might be formed under the new Labour Act. I also told him that in the larger interest, it would be expedient to ~~cancel~~ concede the small request made by the labour ~~who~~ who stopped from work yesterday morning and to either grant them the atten

bonus inspite of their non-attendance yesterday or to provide work for them to-morrow in order that they may qualify for the bonus which they would otherwise lose for non-attedance yesterday. He expressed a desire that I should explain the position to the other members of the mining board also and after this was done they agreed that such of the labourers that would lose their attendance bonus owing to their non-attendance yesterday would be provided work to-morrow as a special case in order to qualify them for the attendance bonus. After they left the place the Superintendent of the Oorgaum mine again telephoned to me saying that he has revised the decision regarding providing work to the labourers to-morrow and that he had decided that all of them that would lose attendance bonus owing to the absence yesterday would be given the attendance bonus without ~~their~~ Their working to-morrow. Arrangements are made to communicate this decision to the labourers. There is no further trouble for the present.

Messrs. Acharya and Indraraj left for Madras yesterday night by Mail train to bring Mr. P.R.K. Sharma here. They are expected to take K.C.Phillips with them as they have arranged to get him to Kuppam Railway Station by the Mail train which goes there. They are expected to return either this evening or tomorrow morning.

It is ascertained that Anthony of Mysore mine who is the defeated candidate for Legislative Council is issuing a notice to-day regretting the allegations made against him in the lengthy notice issued under the signature of K.C. Phillips a few days ago

Further developments are being watched and will be duly reported.

Yours sincerely,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,(Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

"Copy"
30/9/41
District Magistrate, Kolar Dist

Proceedings of the meeting held at the School in Oriental line, Nandydroog mine by the labourers on 26-9-41 at 6 p.m.

The meeting was held in the School at 6 p.m. About 150 labourers had gathered. Mr. Muniswamy, Rail-Maistry, Nandydroog mine presided. Messrs. Venkatachalam and S.R. Shanmugam spoke. The speeches were in Tamil.

The Chairman Mr. Muniswamy spoke as follows :-

"Brothers! We struggled for the last 1½ years to get the labour union. The benevolent Government was generous enough to grant the same. But the ~~compress~~ Congress people want to bring in a congressite to be the President of the Labour Union, Saying that the congress members alone can help the labourers. Thereby they have created parties among the labourers. We do not want any party. If the congressites were our ~~leaders~~ helpers where were they all these days? We were in absolute darkness for the last 60 years and Mr. P.R.K. Sharma has showed the way for us. And now the congress people are coming here to help us. But you know what the congress has helped you. The union given to us is a labour union and as such none else other than the labourers have got to come into it and work for it. In case any body who is not a labourer comes here and creates parties the labourers will suffer.

Mr. Venkatachalam spoke next as follows :-

"Brothers! I want to tell you a few things. You all know that how Mr. P.R.K. Sharma worked strenously for the betterment of labourers. Even then some of our brothern have misunderstood him and say that they do not want him. Is it justifiable? It was he who tried to get us the labour union. When he had been to K.G.F. last time he selected the committee members in the public meeting held at the Gymkhana Ground and he also selected Mr. T.L. Acharya to be the President of the labour union of Nandydroog mines. Now the same committee members say that they do not want Mr. T.L. Acharya to be the President of the union. Who are th

committee members? Who gave them so much of power? We, the 8000 labourers of Nandydroog mine had elected them as the committee members. Think whether they should carry out the will of the labourers or their own. Now, they appear to have been saying that only those who voted for the 'Horse Mark' can enter the labour union office and not others. Let them have their horse. We shall do our own work. Mr. Ramadass came out successful on account of the 1000 solid votes given to him at Bangalore in addition to the few he secured here. What if? Nobody need poke his nose in our labour union. But what I tell you is this. Our Union will be registered within 8 or 10 days. Within that time every one of us should join the Union and enroll as a member of the union. Nobody should fail. We have got to inform the fact to the Government within 2-10-1941. Hence all should become the members of the Union.

Lastly S.R. Desingh @ Shanmugam spoke. Brothers, Mr. Venkatachalam has told you everything. You please do not give your subscriptions to the old committee members. Our Union will be very shortly got registered. Therefore all should become the members of the union. It is of no use or one or two people becoming members. All the 27,000 should be the members of the union. We have got to send up an application to the Government in this matter. Our union will be registered within 8 or 10 days. If you have party spirits within you there will be no use to you. We have given the application for type. We had no money to meet the expenses of typing etc. Some 14 of our brothern subscribed annas eight per man. We have got to carry out the work on hand with that amount alone. Brothers, You need not give your subscriptions now. Please enroll yourselves as members to the Union and we have prepared a list. You please give us your names and ticket numbers, then alone we will be able to know the strength of the list. All those who have now come here may give their names and tick numbers and the rest may give them in their respective li

to the new members who approach them.

The following names were read out by Venkatachalam : 1. Muniswamy Maistry, (2) Ponnuswamy, (3), Gnanamani,(4) Vadivelu, (5) Thangaraj, (6) Krishnaswamy. You give your names if these people were to come to you and to none else. Some gave their names there alone.

At about 7 p.m. M. Dorairaj and Joseph came there. They heard the speeches. The meeting terminated at about 7.30 p.m. Venkatachalam announced that there would be another meeting at Kennedy's line to-morrow in the Drama Hall. Dorairaj and Joseph went away saying "We will see as to how you would conduct meeting to-morrow at Kennedy's line".

All the labourers dispersed quietly.

***

" COPY "

Dy. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

D. O. No. 5 /41-42/S.B.
(Encls. 8)

1053 837
CB

E. G. B. PEEL, Esq., C.I.E.,
Inspector-General of Police
in Mysore.

BANGALORE

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR LAW
OCT 2 1941
No 3227

Dated September 30, 1941.

I enclose for the information of Government a copy of a letter No. CC.20/40-41 dated 28th September 1941 received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, regarding the proceedings of a public meeting held in Kolar Gold Fields on 27-9-1941.

Sabd

Law Minister)

1/10/41

2/10

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Mysore,
Bangalore.

422

N. PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police.

Champion Reefs,
Dated 28th Sept. 1941.

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my report of yesterday, I beg to state that it is reported that yesterday evening at about 5 p.m. there was a meeting of the K.G.F. labourers at Kennedy's Drama Hall and the gathering was about 150 labourers. Venkatesh introduced one B. Kandan to the audience. Kandan first spoke about the hardships they had undergone to obtain labourer unions to K.G.F. and the anti-propoganda carried on by some of them and said that what they want is only a labourers union and not the congre union or the Justice Union. Shekharan @ Iruchan, Y. Manikyam, and Venkatachallam similarly said that it is Mr. P.R.K. Sharma who sacrificed so much for their sake and brough the Unions to them whereas the congress which had been unheard of for nearly 60 years has suddenly appeared at K.G.F. to have a hold over the labour unions and that some mischief mongers are supporting their activities, that if they follow the congress lead they will have to starve in the end and that they should therefore pay attention only to the formation of the labour unions through which they could approach Government and get some more grievances redressed.

Venkatachallam then read out some names and requested the labourers to give their names and subscriptions to these persons only. The meeting terminated at 6.40 p.m. A copy of the English Translation of the proceedings is enclosed herewith.

The same evening at about 8.15 p.m. another meeting consisting of about 100 labourers was held in Numperumal School at Andersonpet, the prominent among them being Nadamuni, Vaduganambi, T.K.

Sneknaran, P.N. Aruldoss, Driver Subramany, V.K.Mannar, S.V. Lingam and C.P. Chinnaraj of Vellore. The object of the meeting was about the assistance to be given to the present War and Mr. Muthu, M.R.A. presided over the meeting. C.P. Chinnaraju spoke about the help to be given to war both in the shape of money and men and said that the meeting was only informal to arrange for the War efforts Conference to be held in K.G.F. in due course and that great personages like His Highness the Maharaja, M.C. Raja, Mr. Rutherford, R. Sreenivasan and E.V. Ramaswamy Naiker would attend the conference. S.V. Lingam and Shankaraswamy also spoke and the meeting terminated after a selection of 45 committee members for arranging for the Conference. A copy of the proceedings enclosed.

A secret meeting of the labourers mostly of Champion Reef members, Baghyanathan, Aseer, Gnanam, Muniswamy, Appaswami Mudaliar, Sriramalu Naidu and about 20 others, was held at the S.R. Building between 7.30 p.m. and 9.15 p.m. What transpired there is not known as there was no access for others.

Messrs. T.L. Acharya and Indaraj who went to Madras to bring Mr. P.R.K. Sharma came by Mail train this morning. Mr. Sharma has not come on account of his ill-health and is expected to come here on the 30th instant or 1st October 1941 and that this fact would be intimated to the labourers in general by issue of notices today alone.

Yours sincerely,

SD/- N. PUTTARANGASWAMY,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,(Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

Copies in duplicate forwarded, with compliments, to the Superintendent of Police, Special Branch in Mysore, Bangalore.

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

Proceedings of the meeting held at Kennedy's Drama Hall this evening at 5 p.m. under the auspicious ofthe Labour Union where about 150 labourers had gathered. Venkatesh after having introduced B. Kandan to the audience requested them to hear Kandan.

B. Kandan spoke as follows " Brothern! I will not dilate on the hardships, sacrifices and troubles we underwent all these years to form the labour union. Eventually the Government was pleased enough to grant us an Union. But some of the labourers are doing their utmost to carry on antipropoganda against the Union. We neither want the congress or the Justice party to interfere with the labourers. We want a union for the labourers and it should be a labourers union not a congress union or Justice union, a union for the labourers and by the labourers. I appeal to you all to join the union and encourage the union".

Shekaran @ Iruchan spoke next -

Brothers! I am neither an orator nor a speaker but I feel that I ought to express myself about the advantages of the labour union, with what unsormountable difficulties and struggles, we have gained the recognition of the labour union, You are all aware. We look forward only to the labour union to redress our grievances and all our fellow labourers unfortunately have not understood the real signifance of the labour union and its attending advantages, rights and privileges. Who is it, I ask, that is responsible for the formation of the Union? Who is it that sacrificed everything for us to gain this labour Union. It is Mr. Sharma who fought single handed, struggled single handed and sacrificed single handed for the uplift of all of us. It is through the Labour Union that we could ventilate our wants to the Government and to the mining authorities. Look at the disorganised state of affairs at present. We will have to strike now and then in consequence of which very many poor labourers will have to go

475

without food and clothing. After the recognition of the labour union, we can approach the union which will in its turn represent to the Government. We have now got the union. It was Mr. Sharma that brought the union to K.G.F. but unfortunately some mischievous people are carrying on propoganda against him in all sorts of disgusting ways. We carried him round the streets of K.G.F. like a demi-God and we wished that he would lead us on the right path. Some ignorant people have begun to scandalise him by saying that he is in league with the Government and that the mining authorities have brought him a car. Who are congressmen here? What is their place here? What have they done for us so long? What do they know of our grievances? The congress have not got majority of labourers behind it, it has only a handful of mischievous people behind it. In conclusion I request you all to join the Union and support the union whole heartedly.

Y. Manikyam spoke next -

Brothern! It is only two months that we spent about 600 to Rs.700/- for Mr. Sharma's coming into K.G.F. and hardly had Mr. Sharma stepped into the union Office, some of the labourers have begun to disbelieve him and are actually scandalising his name. You will have to believe only in the Union which is for labourers. It is above all party politicks and communal differences and it is the only organisation that is fit to redress our wrongs.

Venkatachalam spoke next :

Brothern! It was only about a month back that Mr. Sharma was here and had asked us what to do. But after the congress victory in the elections, some labourers have joined the congress and are doing their utmost to root out the union and bring in the congress here. The labour union should not be a union of congressites much less of any other party. It is only a union of labourers primarily. Congress is trying to get hold of us now. Where was the congress these

426

60 years. What good has it done to us. We wanted Messrs. Sharma and Acharya to be our Presidents and guide us but only a handful wish to bring in Mr. N.C. Thimma Reddy. The congress propoganda and one of their election manifests was that they do not want Section 17 M.M. Act and if the Government won't take back Section 17 M.M. Act, we will offer Satyagraha. They have also told before me to observe Satyagraha in case Section 17 is not deleted from the M.M. Act. Look at the picture of Satyagraha. The congress people are all rich. They can afford to go to Jail Their wives and children have enought money to live without their husbands What about us? Do you forget that if we observe Satyagraha our ladies and children will have to go naked, starving from door to door, We have neither saved a pie nor are we in a position to save any money. What good can they do for us. During the last long strike I apprached Mr. Thimma Reddy and wanted his assistance. I told him that we were starving for food and wanted him to do us some good. Mr. Thimma Reddy told me to influence all the labourers to get back for work immediately otherwise the mining authorities would reduce the wages to 0-6-0 per head. This is the help that congress could give us. We neither want the congress nor its help. The labour union has been recognised. There are some rules. Most of them are favourable for us and little that is not favourable for us. We will have to appeal to the Government to modify some which are not favourable. The age limit for enrolment for the union is 28 years. Therefore all the 27.000 labourers could become members of the Union and we will have to intimate to the Government before the 2nd of next month the total number of members that have enrolled for the union. Hence I request you all to join the union by giving your names and ticket numbers. I will give you a list of names to whom you can give your names and ticket number, Barring the following persons, please do not gibe subscriptions or names to any other pople.

Venkatachalam read out the names of the following person :

1. Vellary Driver, (2) Balakrishnan (3) Murugan (4) Dhanapal, (5) Subramany, (6) Doreswamy, (6) Y. Manickam requested the labourers to give their names and subscription only to the above mentioned seven persons.

The meeting meeting terminated at 6.40 p.m. with Jais to the Special Superintendent of Police, KGF Mr. Morrision, Mysore Government and Mr. T.L. Acharya.

***

" COPY "

Viswanathan 28/7

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

S.B.Report for the area of Champion Reefs police station for the day:- 27-9-1941.

This day between 6-45 P.M. and 8-15 P.M. about 100 men consisting mostly of mining labourers including Nadamuni of Robertsonpet V.M.Vadaganambi of Mysore Mines, T.K. Shekaran of Champion Reefs, P.N.Arul Doss of Andersonpet Driver Subramany of Oorgaum V.K. Mannar of Nandydroog Mine S.V.S Lingam of Mayavaram and C.P.Chinnaraj of Vellore had asembled in Namperumal School at Andersonpet. Mr. Muthu M.R.A. presided over the meeting, C.P.Chinnaraju of Vellore spoke to the gathering about the object of the meeting and further said that it is their bounden duty to assist in the present war as the Mysore state is giving its all possible aid in this great cause. He said that this meeting was only informal to the War efforts conference to be held in K.G.F. in due course and that every subject of H.H.Maharaja should help in the enhancement of the great cause and render help both by means of men and money. He requested at the end that these members who have nowgathered should enlighten the other co-labourers and prepare them to put into execution to utter satisfaction of some prominent persons like H.H.Maharaja, M.C. Raja, Mr.Rutherford, R.Srinivasan, E.V.Ramasamy Naikar and such others who will be expected to attend that conference. S.V.Lingam next spoke saying that great men like Mahatma Ghandi and C.Rajagopalachari fight for a cause and court-arrest to go to Jail because they have none of the relations in the army, now that we must protect ourselves and our country. We must render all aid in this cause. Thereafter Shankersamy spoke on the same subject appealing to the audience and the meeting terminated after the selection of 45 Committee members for this conference. The meeting terminated at about 8-15 P.M. with the vote of thanks by V.M.Vadaganambi:- The names of the committee members selected are (1) E.Srinivasan (2) R. Subramaniyan (3) A.A.Bhagyanathan, Champion Reefs (4) M.P. Sankarasamy, Mysore mine (5) S.Govindan, Mysore Mines (6) Ve

(6) Veerasamy (7) Muniswamy (8) Kariyan Maistry Mysore Mine (9) L.C. Kuppaswamy Oorgaum (10) T.K.Perumal oorgaum (11) V.K.Mannar Nandydroog (12)Kanniyappa Achari Andersonpet (13) Manchani Oorgaum (14) Andi Marikuppam (15) S.Ganghadar oorgaum (16) A.Anthony Mysore Mine (17) C.Venkatachalam N.[illegible] (18) A.Ramaswamy Andersonpet (19) T.Samiraj Nandydroog (20 V.P.Raju Champion Reefs (21) K.S. Balakrishnan Oorgaum (22 G.Gnana Doss Oorgaum (23) K.Shekheran Oriental line (24) Yacoob-sheriff Andersonpet (25) Md. Sirajuddin Andersonpet (26) Raghavalu Oorgaum (27) V.R. Subramaniyam Irudayapura (28) S.C.Ganapathi Champion Reefs (29) V.P.Krishnan Oorgau (30) V.M.Vadaganambiyar Marikuppam (31) V.P.Krishnaswamy Oorgaum (32) R. Muthuswamy, ~~Marikuppam~~ M.R.A. (33) M. Nadamuni Oorgaum (34) T.K. Shekharan Champion Reefs (35) P.Gopal Panjab Line Marikuppam (36) P.A.Gangandharan Oorgaum (37) K.P.M.Sami (38) K.Doraswamy Champion Reefs (39) K.M.Samy Andersonpet (40) S.K.Samevelu Andersonpet (41) R.Periathar Oorgaum (42) S.R. Muniswamy Champion Reefs (43) K.Muruges[illegible] oorgaum (44) M.C. Dorai.

As usual a meeting of labourers mostly the members o Champion Reefs Viz. Bagyanathan, Aseer, Gnanam, Muniswamy Appasamy Mudaliar, Sreeramulu Naidu and others about 20 a was held secretly at S.R. Building Andersonpet between 7-30 P.M. to 9-15 P.M. and the movements of Mahemanadan, Ponnan, Masila, Dakshna, Ramiah, Arokianadan, Perumal, Subramany, were watched and nothing unusual was noticed.

" C O P Y "

Sd

Spl.Superintendent of Police, 28/9
Kolar Gold Fields

D. O. No. 5/41-42/S.B. Encls.7. SECRET 1063 CB 655

E. G. B. PEEL, Esq., C.I.E.,
Inspector-General of Police
in Mysore.

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR LAW
OCT 3 1941
No 32/65

BANGALORE
October 1, 1941.

My dear Kesavaiengar

I enclose for the information of Government a copy of a letter No. C.C.20/40-41 dated September 30, 1941, received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, regarding the distribution of pamphlets in Kolar Gold Fields and the activities of labourers there.

Yours sincerely
E. G. B. Peel

Subd
Law Minister
2/10

Rajasevaprasakta
B.T. Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secy. to Govt. of Mysore,
Bangalore.

PUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Superintendent of Police,

Champion Reefs,
Dated 30th Sept. 1941.

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports, I beg to state that Tamil printed notices issued by the Congress party setting forth the interpellations to be made in the forthcoming Dasara Sessions of the Representative Assembly at Mysore, were distributed in the mining area on 28-9-1941.

Another set of Tamil notices issued under the signature of Mr. Anthony, mentioning about the reactionary campaign carried on against himself and their President Mr. P.R.K. Sharma in the recent electi for the Legislative Council, were also distributed in the Fields the same day.

Copies of the English translation of the above are enclosed.

On 29-9-1941 printed notices were distributed announcing that Mr. P.R.K. Sharma has agreed to visit K.G.F. on the request of Messrs. T.L.A. Acharya, Phillips and Indraraj at Madras and that he is expecte to come here to-day. One Adimoolam, Chandrakesh and Thangaraj are reported to have taken objection for their distribution.

On 29-9-41 Mr. Rangiah, Quartz Contractor Mysore mine turned out about 300 coolies from ~~North~~ work. and no reasons are mentioned for the same. Messrs. Acharya, Indraraj and G. Narayanaswamy are intending to meet the Contractor on behalf of the labourers and if they fail in their attempt they are thinking of filing a suit against the Contractor under Section 23 of the Labour Act.

Mahimanadan, Perumal, Asir, Dorai, Dakshima and some others of Mysore mine are reported to have met in the S.R. Building between 7 & 8-30 p.m.

on 29-9-41 and what transpired there is not known as it was a secret meeting.

Yours sincerely,

N. PUTTARANGASWAMY,

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A., (Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

Copies in duplicate forwarded, with compliments, to the Superintendent of Police, Special Branch in Mysore, Bangalore.

Vide endorsement No. 385

Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

GRATITUDE AND EXPLANATION.

Dear Brothers,

I am very grateful to one and all of you for the support that you all gave me - an independent candidate - during the election to the Assembly. Though there was only a day before you, all of you have whole-heartedly supported me, and gave me the maximum number of votes possible. I am also conveying to you all the deep gratitude of our leader.

STRENGTH OF PROPAGANDA AND DEFEAT.

The defeat of a K.G.F. candidate is a defeat for K.G.F. itself. No labourers can but feel sorry for some of our friends who without realising that the defeat of a K.G.F. labour candidate, is a defeat @@@@ for our Union, joined the opposition, and shattered the unity of our union. The cause for this was due to the false allegations that I have joined the 'Company Side'. Want of time to refute this allegation also contributed to the defeat. Inspite of these adverse circumstances, and the mischief set up by certain irresponsible youngsters, the speeches of our leader on the night of the election, and the ardent propaganda of some of his followers, opened the eyes of the people, and as a result I got more than a thousand votes. This has maintained the prestige of our union.

OUR LEADER :

Our leader Mr. P.R.K. Sharma helped us for one year during a time when we were helpless. He consolidated unity among us. He walked one day a distance of 8 miles from Budugur to K.G.F. Will the leader who works for the labour cause, leave it at this stage? No, he will not. It was Sharma who worked then, who is working now, and who will work in the future. Our leader is Sharma. We realised his character and good qualities and received him on 31-8-1941. Sang in his priase, garlanded him, respected him. Again it was some of us alone who insulted the revered gentleman - what gratitude! Let the wise people

13

judge. It is an ungrateful act of ours to have insulted this gentleman who has no axe of his to grind It is all the more ungrateful when it is done by us who once respected him and obeyed him.

MYSELF AND THE ASSEMBLY :

All on a sudden one day a friend authorised by our old committee asked me to stand as a candidate for the Assembly. Though I, a poor mining labourer, was well aware that the honour was too great for me, yet I obeyed the behest of our committee. At that time no one asked me to sign the congress pledge. I did not consent to join the congress party.

UNEXPECTED HAPPENING : Some of us who were dupted by the false allegations levelled against our leader, at his back, with a view of punishing us suddenly asked us to sign the congress pledge. I refused. I kept quiet as our leader was absent. I never promised anything to the congress nor changed after making any promise as was published in a certain hand bill. I request all my brother labourers to think over this. I did not like to change from one party to another for the sake of self-agrendizement. I did not yield to congress compulsion. I wanted to be under the shadow of the labour union.. On account of that I was defeat

SECRETARY'S ANNOUNCEMENT.

You would have seen the announcement made by Mr. Phillips on 21-9-41. The signature at the end of it is Mr. Phillips. But from the words 'Our Secretary Suspects one" and 'our Secretary Phillips" readers would have found out that the announcement was written by a third party. Under what circumstances he signed has been made clear by his yesterday's announcement. I felt sorry for the insults offered to me. Alas! disinterested persons like Acharya and Ramji were also insulted. Who is the that does not feel sorry? Come what may! May our

Union thrive. Let our leader's prestige shine. Let us follow his righteous path. Let us be victorious. Let us live happily. Once again I thank my friends of Oorgaum and Nandydroog who helped me unasked.

Let us be as aloof from any party as we were since 1 year. May the labourers live long! May the union live long. May our leader live long.

SD/- A. ANTHONY,
Fitting-shop, Marikuppam.

Sri Siddartha Press,
Andersonpet.

***

" COPY "

D Viswesweswar 3/9

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

NR/-

NR 3/9

435

VANDE MATHARAM.

Mysore Congress and the labourers in the Representative Assembly.

The congress have proposed to represent the following points connected with the labourers of Kolar Gold Fields for discussion in the Assembly which is going to be held from October 1941.

SUBJECT :

1. 105 (Mr. Siddabasaviah - congress). I request that the report submitted by Rajamantraprivina Dewan Bahadur K. Mathan in the interest of the labourers of Kolar Gold Fields may be published for the information of the public.

2. 107 (Mr. K. Subbiah Chetty - congress). He requests that Sec.17 of the M.M. Act should be repealed and that he will also speak about the welfare, convenience and means to secure safety among the labourers fixing the working hours for labourers working underground, giving wages for over times, about giving a holiday in a week, boys and girls should not be taken underground for work, and fixing the working hours of labourers working on surface etc.

QUESTIONS :

3. 30 (Mrs Suvhandamma - congress).
   (a) How many have been served with undesirable notices for the last 5 years?
   (b) The names of persons in respect of whom such notices are served.
   (c) How many of such notices have been cancelled?
   (d) Why such notices against the remaining are not cancelled?

She requests that the Government may kindly be leased to answer the above questions.

CONCLUSION : (Messrs. M.S. Joyes, P. Narayanaswamy, T.S. Rajagopala Iyengar - congress).

Recommend for the incorporation of a Labour Commission for the betterment and welfare of the labourers in the State like "Videley Commission'. Whately

5. CORRECTIONS :

The following corrections are found essential in the Mysore Labourers Emergency Act of 1941 for the benefit of the labourers.

1. It may be permitted to establish a SAMASTY comprising all the unions.
2. Should not give room to establish any counter unions
3. To fix the timings for panchayat.
4. To facilitate to spend money for reasonable causes.
5. To leave a margin for strikes.
6. For appeal on orders passed by the Registrar u/s 28
7. One respectable member of one union may be permitted to be one such of any other union.
8. As many respectable members as can must be allowed to become members in a union.
9. A labourer may be a member of a union of his locality.
10. Non-officials in Government must be permitted to be members in unions and Governments.
11. In pursuance of the Bombay labourers union and the coming Madras Labourers union, it must be made compulsory to hold panchayat.
12. Irrespective of ages every labourer should be allowed to become a member.

MESSRS.

1. K.T. Bashyam, President, Bangalore Labourers Union.
2. K. Chengalraya Reddy, Mysore Representative Assembly and Congress leader.
3. N.C. Thimma Reddy, President, Kolar District Congre
4. G.L. Chengadhya, Representative Assembly member (Labourers).

ished by the labourers, Bangalore City Select printing Works, Bangalore City.
28-9-1941.

***

" COPY "

D Viswesweswar Iyer 30/9

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

1078/CB 871

GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE

Telegraphic Address

OFFICE OF

The District Magistrate,
Kolar District,
Kolar.

No. C.C.27/41-42
Encls. Three.

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR LAW
OCT 5 1941
No. 3306

Date 2nd October 1941.

CHIEF SECRETARY
5 OCT. 1941
GOVT. OF MYSORE

To
Rajasevaprasakta B.T. Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore,
Bangalore.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward, herewith, for information a copy of D.O.No.C.C.20/40-41 dated 30th September 1941 together with its two enclosures received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, regarding the Labour situation on the Fields.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

S. Narayanaiah

DISTRICT MAGISTRATE,
Kolar District.

Subd

Law minister

5/10

488

5/10

N. RUTTARANGASWAMY, ESQ., B.Sc.,
Spl. Superintendent of Police,

Champion Reefs,
Dated 30th Sept. 1941.

CC.20/40-41.

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my previous reports, I beg to state that Tamil printed notices issued by the Congress party setting forth the interpellations to be made in the forthcoming Dasara Sessions of the Representative Assembly at Mysore, were distributed in the mining area on 28-9-1941.

Another set of Tamil notices issued under the signature of Mr. Anthony, mentioning about the reactionary campaign carried on against himself and their President Mr. P.R.K. Sharma in the recent election for the Legislative Council, were also distributed in the Fields the same day.

Copies of the English translation of the above are enclosed.

On 28-9-1941 printed notices were distributed announcing that Mr. P.R.K. Sharma has agreed to visit K.G.F. on the request of Messrs. T.L.A. Acharya, Phillips and Indraraj at Madras and that he is expected to come here to-day. One Adimoolam, Chandrakesh and Thangaraj are reported to have taken objection for their distribution.

On 29-9-41 Mr. Rangiah, Quartz Contractor Mysore mine turned out about 300 coolies from work and no reasons are mentioned for the same. Messrs. Acharya, Indraraj and G. Narayanaswamy are intending to meet the Contractor on behalf of the labourers and if they fail in their attempt they are thinking of filing a suit against the Contractor under section 23 of the Labour Act.

Mahimanadan, Perumal, Asir, Sorai, Dakshina and some others of Mysore mine are reported to have met in the D.R. Building between

on 26-9-41 and what transpired there is not known as it was a secret meeting.

Yours sincerely,

D Viswanathan

S. NARAYANA RAO, ESQ., M.A.,(Hons),
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist.

Copy"
S Narayana Rao
2/9
District Magistrate,
Kolar District.

GRATITUDE AND EXPLANATION.

Dear Brothers,

I am very grateful to one and all of you for the support that you all gave me - an independent candidate - during the election to the Assembly. Though there was only a day before you, all of you have whole-heartedly supported me, and gave me the maximum number of votes possible. I am also conveying to you all the deep gratitude of our leader.

SACRIFICE OF PROPAGANDA AND DEFEAT.

The defeat of a K.G.F. candidate is a defeat for K.G.F. itself. No labourers can but feel sorry for some of our friends who without realising that the defeat of a K.G.F. lasour candidate, is a defeat for our Union, joined the opposition, and shattered the unity of our union. The cause for this was due to the false allegations that I have joined the 'Company Side'. Want of time to refute this allegation also contributed to the defeat. Inspite of these adverse circumstances, and the mischief set up by certain irresponsible youngsters, the speeches of our leader on the night of the election, and the ardent propaganda of some of his followers, opened the eyes of the people, and as a result I got more than a thousand votes. This has maintained the prestige of our union.

OUR LEADER :

Our leader Mr. P.M.K. Sharma helped us for one year during a time when we were helpless. He consolidated unity among us. He walked one day a distance of 8 miles from Ludugur to K.G.F. Will the leader who works for the labour cause, leave it at this stage? No, he will not. It was Sharma who worked then, who is working now, and who will work in the future. Our leader is Sharma. We realised his character and good qualities and received him on 31-8-1941. Many in his prison, garlanded him, respected him. Again it was some of us alone who insulted the revered gentleman - what gratitude! Let us ask p

judge. It is an ungrateful act of ours to have insulted this gentleman who has no axe of his to grind. It is all the more ungrateful when it is done by us who once respected him and obeyed him.

MYSELF AND THE ASSEMBLY :

All on a sudden one day a friend authorised by our old committee asked me to stand as a candidate for the Assembly. Though I, a poor mining labourer was well aware that the honour was too great for me, yet I obeyed the behest of our committee. At that time no one asked me to sign the congress pledge. I did not consent to join the congress party.

UNDERCOVER MANOEUVRE : Some of us who were duped by the false allegations levelled against our leader, at his back, with a view of punishing us suddenly asked us to sign the congress pledge. I refused. I kept quiet as our leader was absent. I never promised anything to the congress nor changed after making any promise as was published in a certain hand bill. I request all my brother labourers to think over this. I did not like to change from one party to another for the sake of self-agrendisement. I did not yield to congress compulsion. I wanted to be under the shade of the labour union.. On account of that I was defeated.

SECRETARY'S ANNOUNCEMENT.

You would have seen the announcement made by Mr. Phillips on 21-8-41. The signature at the end of it is Mr. Phillips. But from the words 'Our Secretary Suspects one" and 'our Secretary Phillips" readers would have found out that the announcement was written by a third party. Under what circumstances he signed has been made clear by his yesterday's announcement. I feel sorry for the insults offered to me. Alas! disinterested like Acharya and Nanji were also insulted. that does not feel sorry? Come what may!

Union thrive. Let our leader's prestige shine. Let us follow his righteous path. Let us be victorious. Let us live happily. Once again I thank my friends of Corgaum and Kandydroog who helped me unasked.

Let us be as aloof from any party as ~~a~~ we were since 1 year. May the labourers live long! May the union live long. May our leader live long.

SD/- A. ANEKLAY,
Fitting-shop, Karikuppam.

Sri Siddartha Press,
Andersonpet.

" COPY "

Viswaeswara Iyer

Dpl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

MM/-

30/8

447

VANDE MATARAM.

Mysore Congress and the labourers in the Representative Assembly.

The congress have proposed to represent the following points connected with the labourers of Kolar Gold Fields for discussion in the Assembly which is going to be held from October 1941.

SUPPLY :

1. 106 (Mr. Giddabasaviah - congress). I request that the report submitted by Rajasantraprivina Dewan Bahadur K. Nathan in the interest of the labourers of Kolar Gold Fields may be published for the information of the public.

2. 107 (Mr. K. Subbiah Chetty - congress). He requests that Sec.17 of the M.S. Act should be repealed and that he will also speak about the welfare, conveniences and means to secure ~~[illegible]~~ safety among the labourers fixing the working hours for labourers working underground, giving wages for over times, about giving a holiday in a week, boys and girls should not be taken underground for work, and fixing the working hours of labourers working on surface e

QUESTION

3. 30 (Mr. Gunnandanna - congress).
   (a) How many have been served with undesirable notices for the last 5 years?
   (b) The names of persons in respect of whom such notices are served.
   (c) How many of such notices have been cancelled?
   (d) Why such notices against the remaining are not cancelled.

She requests that the Government may kindly be pleased to answer the above questions.

4. CONCLUSION : (Messrs. B.S. Joyes, P. Narayanaswamy, T.S. Rajagopala Iyengar - congress).

Recommend for the incorporation of a Labour Commission for the betterment and welfare of the labourers in the State like "Videley Commission".

5. CONCLUSION :

The following corrections are found essential in Mysore Labourers Emergency Act of 1941 for t the labourers.

444

1. It may be permitted to establish a SA ASTY compri all the unions.

2. Should not give room to establish any counter unions

3. To fix the timings for panchayat.

4. To facilitate to spend money for reasonable causes.

5. To leave a margin for strikes.

6. For appeal on orders passed by the Registrar u/s 28

7. One respectable member of one union may be permitted to be one such of any other union.

8. As many respectable members as can must be allowed to become members in a union.

9. A labourer may be a member of a union of his locality.

10. Non-officials in Government must be permitted to be members in unions and Governments.

11. In pursuance of the Bombay labourers union and the coming Madras Labourers union, it must be made compulsory to hold panchayat.

12. Irrespective of ages every labourer should be allowed to become a member.

MEMBERS.

1. K.T. Beshyam, President, Bangalore Labourers Union.

2. K. Chengalraya Reddy, Mysore Representative Assembly and Congress leader.

3. N.C. Thimma Reddy, President, Kolar District Congre

4. G.L. Chengaradhya, Representative Assembly member (Labourers).

Published by the labourers, Bangalore City Select Printing Works, Bangalore City.
28-8-1941.

" COPY "

Viswesweraiah
Spl. Superintendent of Pol
Kolar Gold Fields.

TN/-

30/9

443

GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE

10/7
CB

graphic
dress

OFFICE OF

The District Magistrate,
Kolar District,
Kolar.

No. C.C.27/41-42.
Encls. Enc: One

Date 2nd October 1941.

CHIEF SECRETARY.
5 OCT. 1941
GOVT. OF MYSORE.

To CB
Rajasevaprasakta B.T. Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore,
Bangalore.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward, herewith, for information a copy of D.O. letter No:C.C.20/40-41 dated 1st October 1941 received from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, regardin the Labour situation on the Fields.

I have the honour to be,
S i r,
Your most obedient servant,

S. Narayanan

RICT MAGISTRATE,
lar District.

46